変身

まんがで読破

カフカ・作

THE METAMORPHOSIS

イースト・プレス

THE METAMORPHOSIS

MANGA VERSION

BY KAFKA

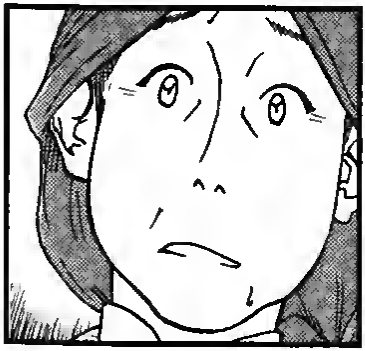
EAST PRESS

MAIN CHARACTERS

THE METAMORPHOSIS

GREGOR

HERO OF THE STORY. ONCE A CLERK IN FABRIC SALES, HE NOW MUST SUPPORT HIS FAMILY AS HIS FATHER HAS GONE INTO DEBT AFTER LOSING HIS SHOP. GREGOR BECOMES A SALESMAN, HOPING FOR BIG COMMSSIONS.



MRS. SAMSA

GREGOR'S MOTHER. SHE IS A HOUSEWIFE IN POOR HEALTH. QUIET IN DEMEANOR.

MR. SAMSA

GREGOR'S FATHER. OWNED AN UPSCALE BOUTIQUE IN PRAGUE AND MANAGED AN AFFLUENT HOUSEHOLD. BUT HIS SHOP GOES UNDER AFTER SOME BAD LUCK, HE LOSES HIS SOURCE OF INCOME AND GOES INTO DEBT.

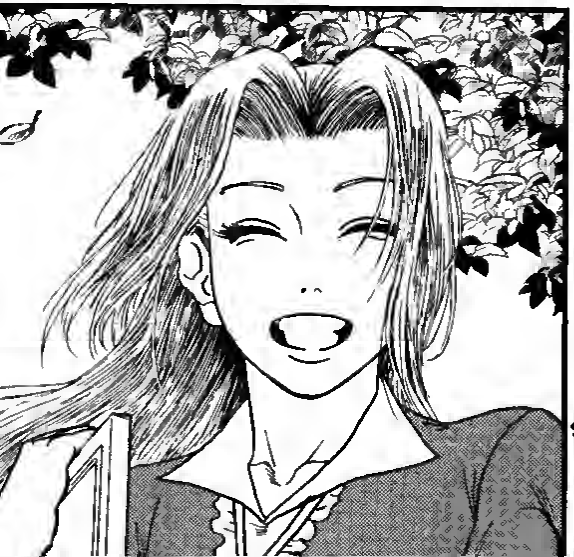
GRETE

GREGOR'S YOUNGER SISTER. SHE IS SKILLED AT THE VIOLIN. GREGOR HAS PROMISED TO SAVE UP THE MONEY TO SEND HER TO MUSIC SCHOOL.

THREE BOARDERS

MANAGER

GREGOR'S BOSS AT HIS COMPANY.



MILENA

GREGOR'S GIRLFRIEND. SHE IS AN INDEPENDENT WOMAN WHO MANAGES AN INN IN VIENNA. SHE IS ONE OF GREGOR'S CLASSMATES FROM HIS STUDENT DAYS.

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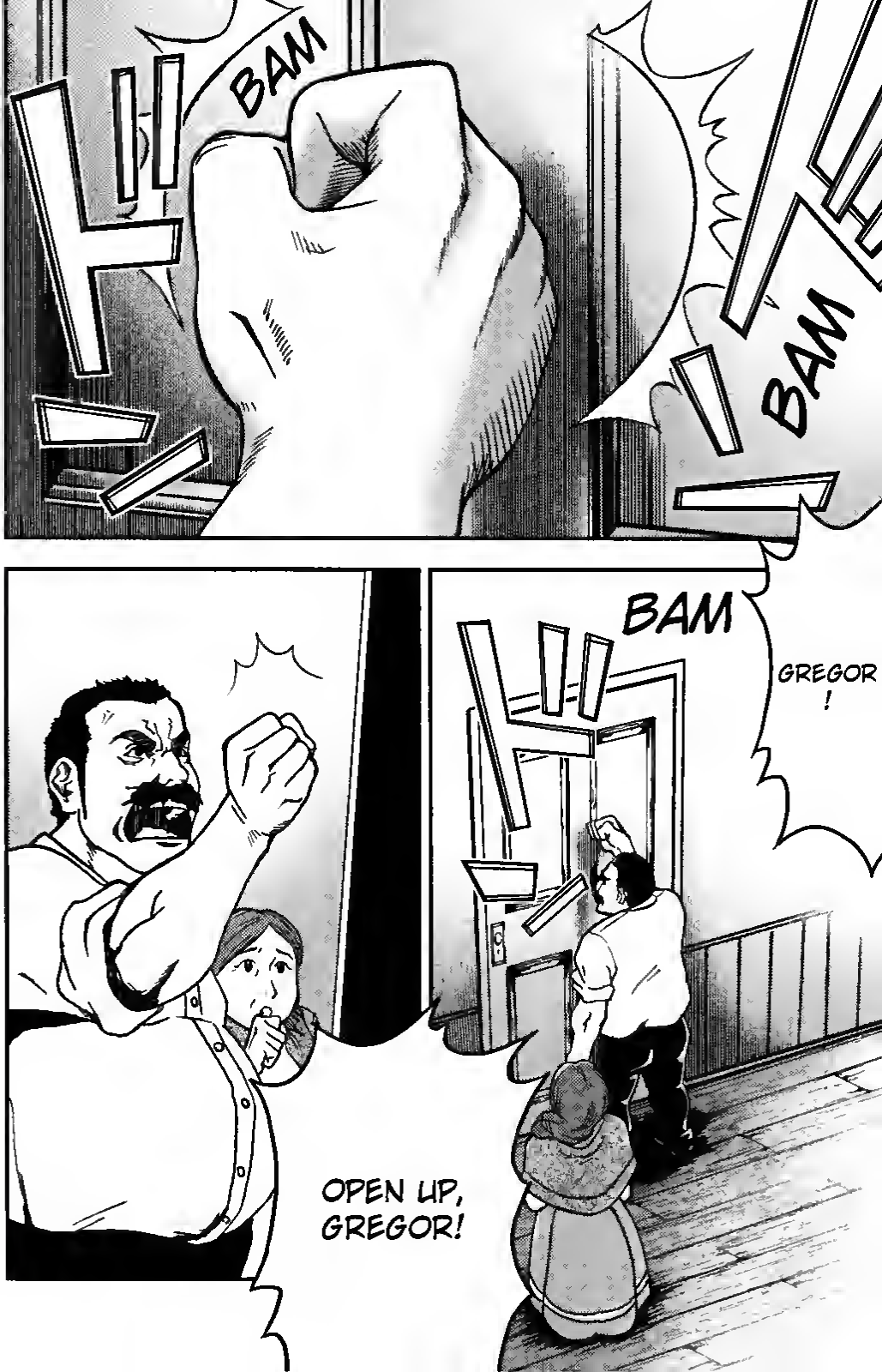
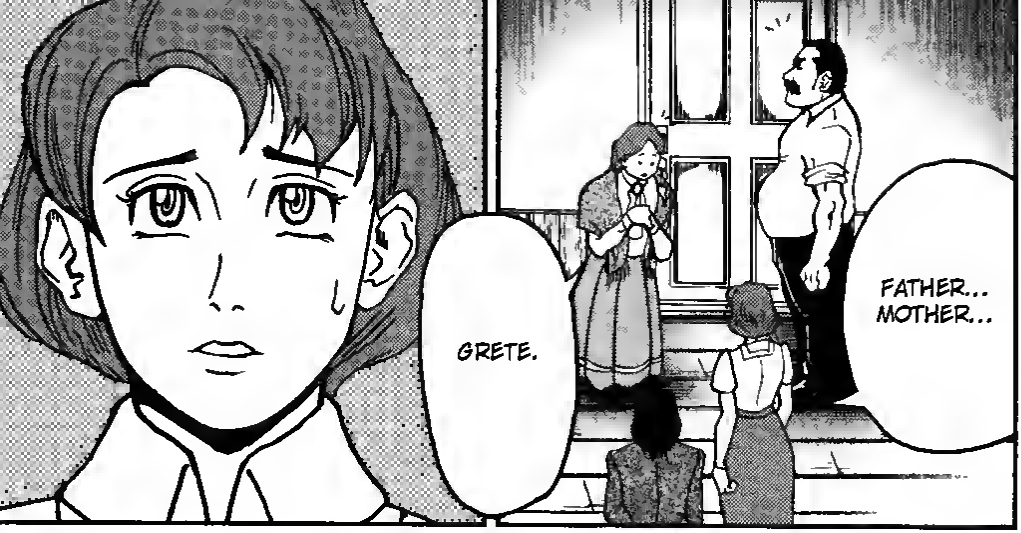
PROLOGUE
ALS
GREGOR SAMSA EINES
MORGENS AUS UNRUHIGEN
TRAUMEN ERWACHTE,
FAND ER SICH IN SEINEM
BETT ZU EINEM UNGEHEUEREN
UNGEZIEFER VERWANDELT...
ONE MORNING, GREGOR SAMSA
AWAKENS FROM A CURIOUS
NIGHTMARE TO FIND THAT HE HAS
TURNED INTO A LARGE INSECT.

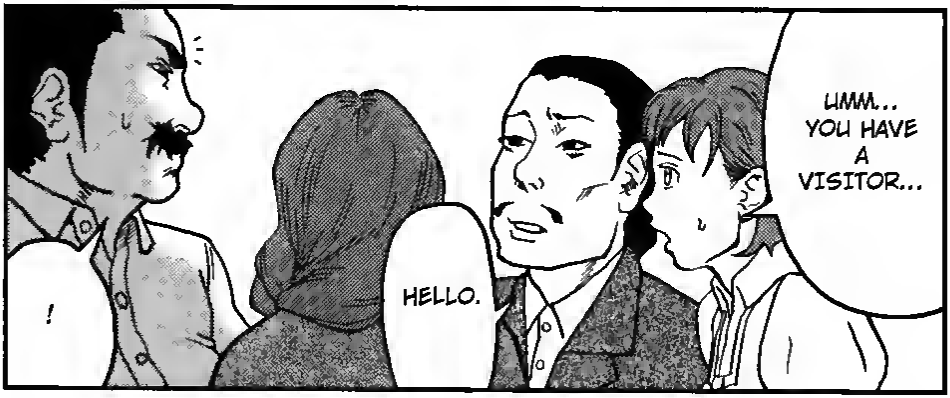
AUGHHHHH

変身
THE METAMORPHOSIS

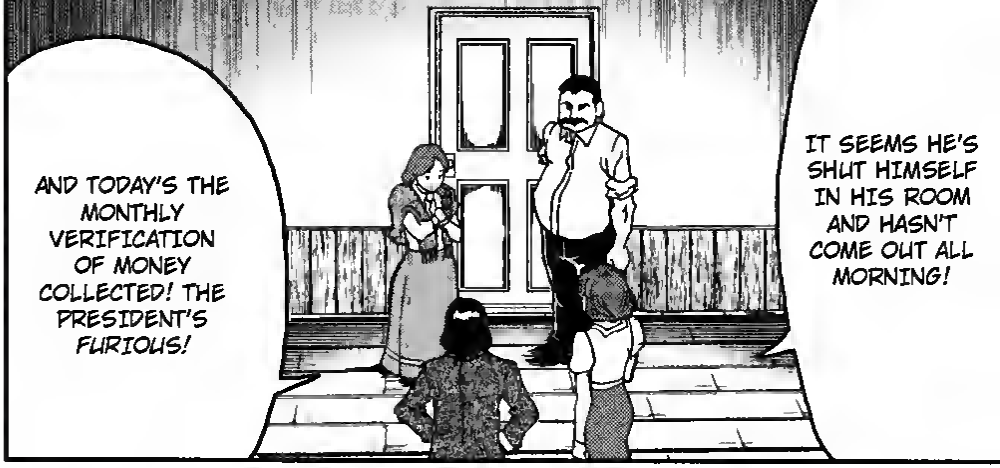
PRAGUE
1912
VSSSHHH

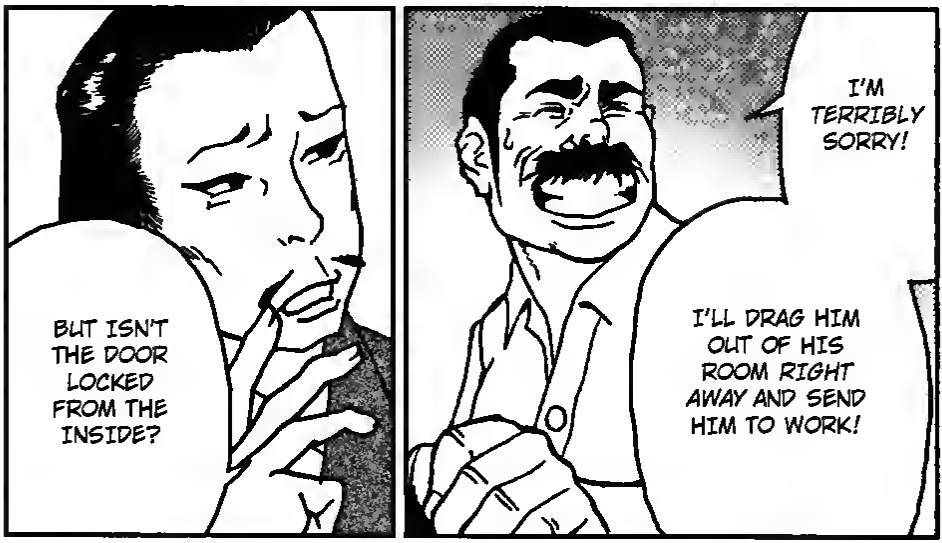

BAM
BAM
BAM
GREGOR!
OPEN UP, GREGOR!


GRETE.
FATHER... MOTHER...

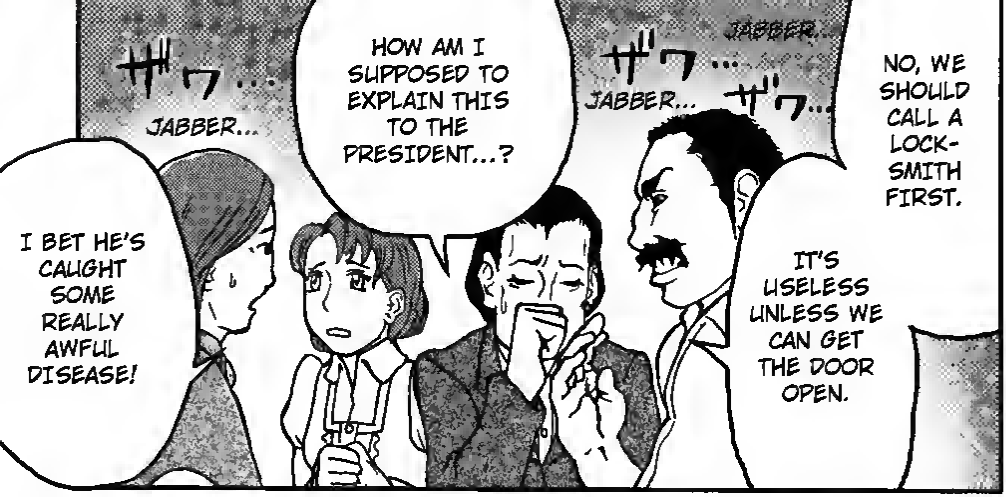

!
HELLO.
UMM... YOU HAVE A VISITOR...

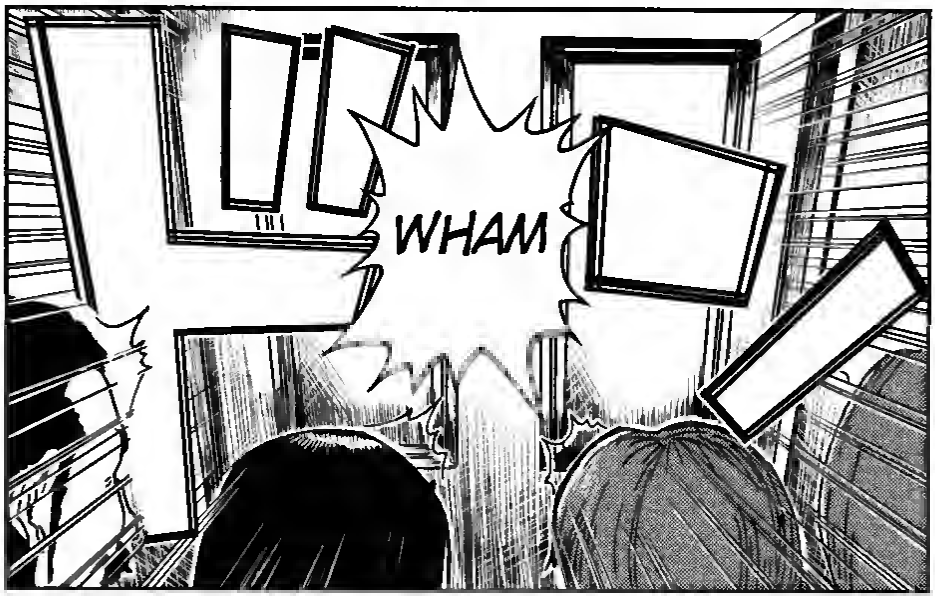
I CAME OUT OF CONCERN BECAUSE GREGOR DIDN'T SHOW UP FOR WORK ON TIME!
OH MY GOOD-NESS...
WHAT A PLEASURE TO HAVE A VISIT FROM YOU, MR. MANAGER.

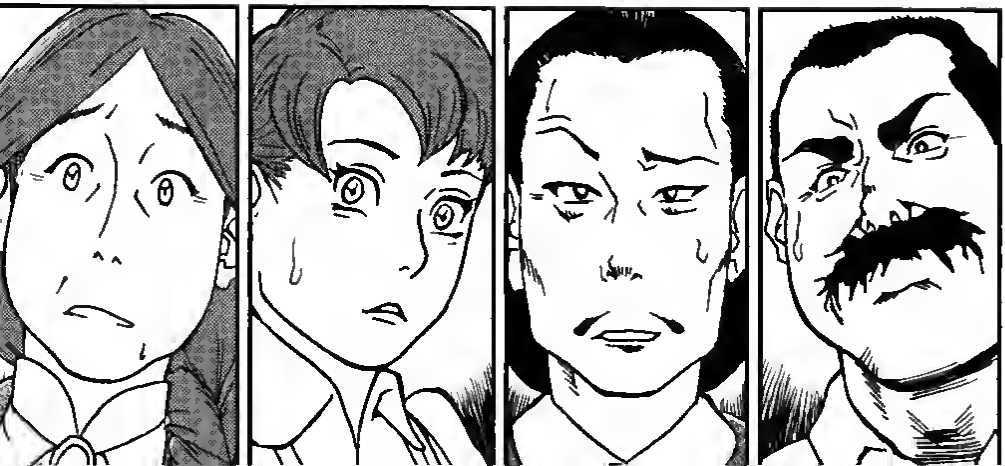

AND TODAY'S THE MONTHLY VERIFICATION OF MONEY COLLECTED! THE PRESIDENT'S FURIOUS!
IT SEEMS HE'S SHUT HIMSELF IN HIS ROOM AND HASN'T COME OUT ALL MORNING!

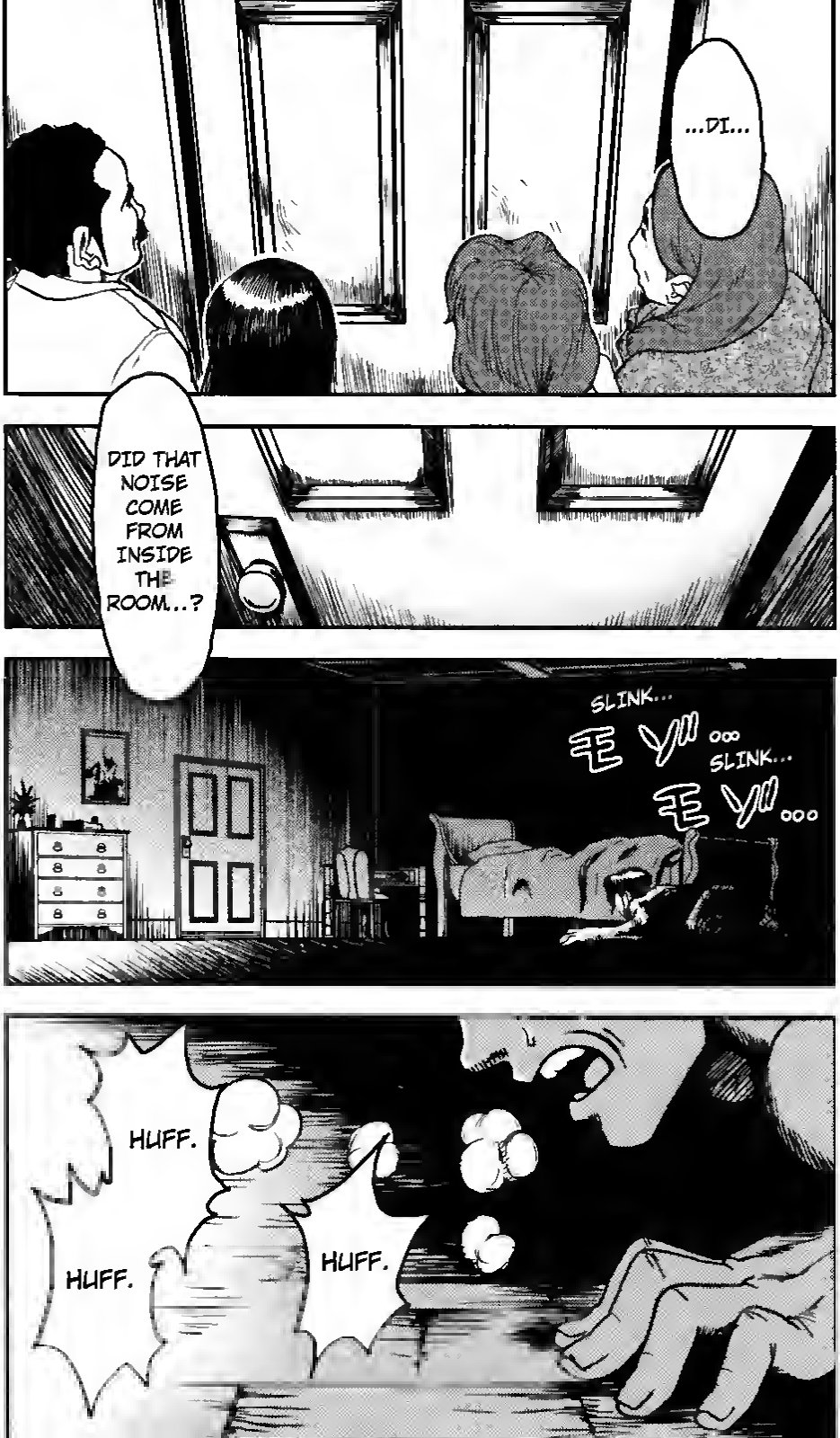

BUT ISN'T THE DOOR LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE?
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY!
I'LL DRAG HIM OUT OF HIS ROOM RIGHT AWAY AND SEND HIM TO WORK!

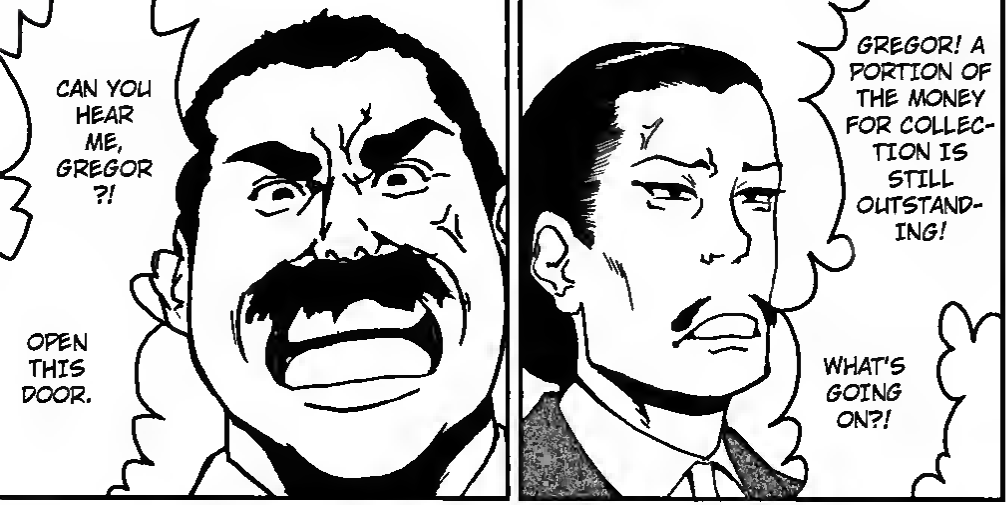
OH NO! WE HAVE TO CALL A DOCTOR.
I BET HE'S CAUGHT SOME KIND OF DISEASE OR SOMETHING!


JABBER...
JABBER...
JABBER...
JABBER...
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO EXPLAIN THIS TO THE PRESIDENT...?
NO, WE SHOULD CALL A LOCK-SMITH FIRST.
I BET HE'S CAUGHT SOME REALLY AWFUL DISEASE!
IT'S USELESS UNLESS WE CAN GET THE DOOR OPEN.

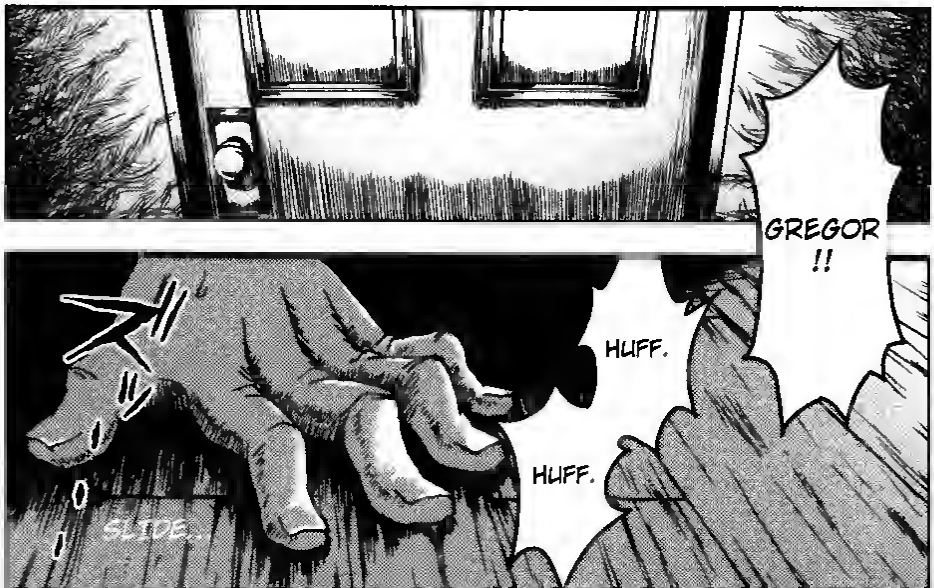

WHAM




...DI...
DID THAT NOISE COME FROM INSIDE THE ROOM..?
SLINK...
SLINK...
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.


CAN YOU HEAR ME, GREGOR?!
OPEN THIS DOOR.
GREGOR! A PORTION OF THE MONEY FOR COLLECTION IS STILL OUTSTANDING!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

ARE YOU OKAY, GREGOR?
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?!
YOU DON'T FEEL WELL, DO YOU?
WE'LL CALL A DOCTOR RIGHT AWAY!


GREGOR!!
HUFF.
HUFF.
SLIDE...

...AA
HUFF
HUFF
I...I'M OKAY. I JUST FELT A LITLE DIZZY AND FELL OUT OF BED...
BUT I'M FINE NOW! I'LL GET READY RIGHT AWAY AND BE ON MY WAY TO WORK!
SO THERE'S NO NEED TO CALL A DOCTOR OR A LOCKSMITH!
NOW... NOW I'M GOING TO OPEN THE DOOR...

...THA...
THAT VOICE.
I'M CERTAIN THAT WAS GREGOR'S VOICE.
...BUT.

...IT SOUND-ED...
CREEEAAAK
LIKE A BEAST.

KER-
CHAK

FIVE YEARS AGO—
WHAM!
FATHER!
RECOL-LECTIONS
IS THAT YOU GREGOR?

ARE...ARE YOU ALRIGHT ?
... HEH.
AS YOU CAN PROBABLY TELL...
I'VE BEEN RUINED...
Shop Samsa

PRAGUE WAS THE CAPITAL OF THE BOHEMIAN KINGDOM, A DEPENDENT TERRITORY OF AUSTRIA.
AT THAT TIME...

BUT TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, THE JUSTICE SYSTEM, AND EDUCATION WERE MADE UP ALMOST ENTIRELY OF GERMANS.
IT WAS A HETEROGENEOUS NATION FILLED WITH GERMANS, CZECHS, JEWISH, AND OTHERS ALIKE.

GERMANS DOMINANTED AS THE RULING CLASS.

THE GERMANS WANTED TO MAINTAIN THE PRIVILEGED CLASS.
LET US SPEAK CZECH
RIGHTS FOR CZECHS!
RISE, CZECH!
THE CZECHS WHO MADE UP THE SUBORDINATE CLASS REVOLTED IN AN APPEAL FOR RIGHTS.

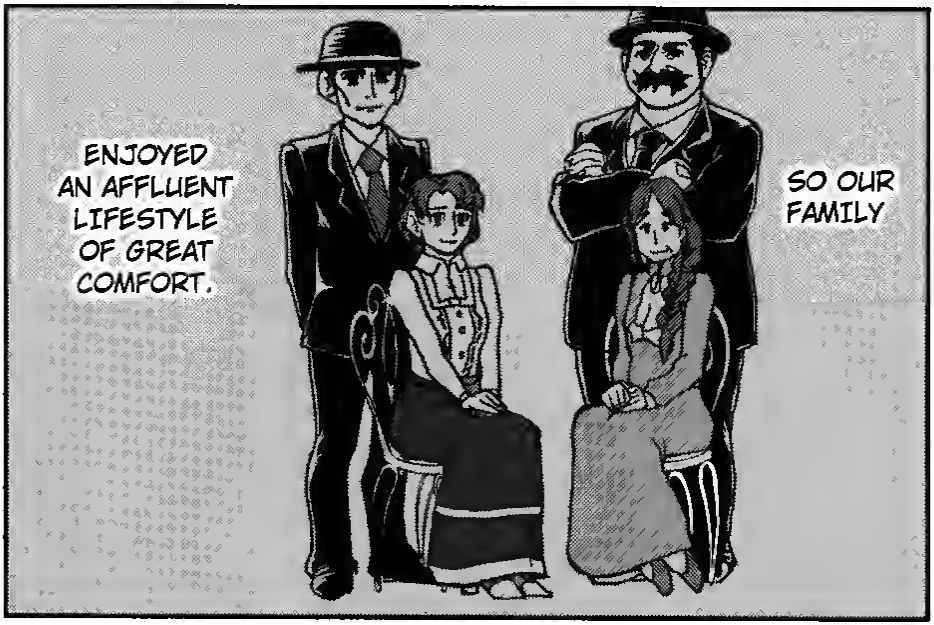
THE GERMANS WERE SOMEHOW ABLE TO PROTECT THEIR POSITION OF DOMINANCE.
WE'RE FINE WITH THIS AS LONG AS WE PROFIT.
YOU WON'T BE SORRY.
BY WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE JEWISH WHO MADE UP THE MIDDLE CLASS...

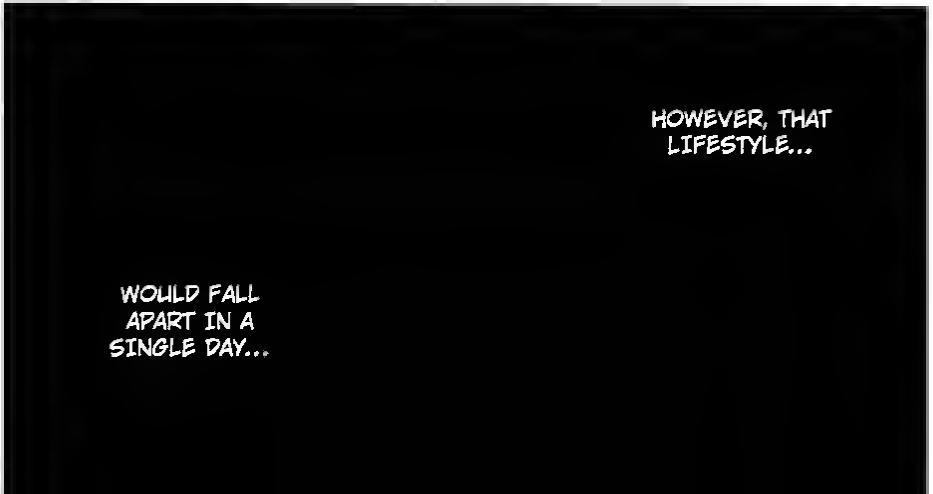
THOSE WERE THE CLOSING STAGES OF ABSOLUTISM.
THE CLASH WOULD CONTINUE— ...

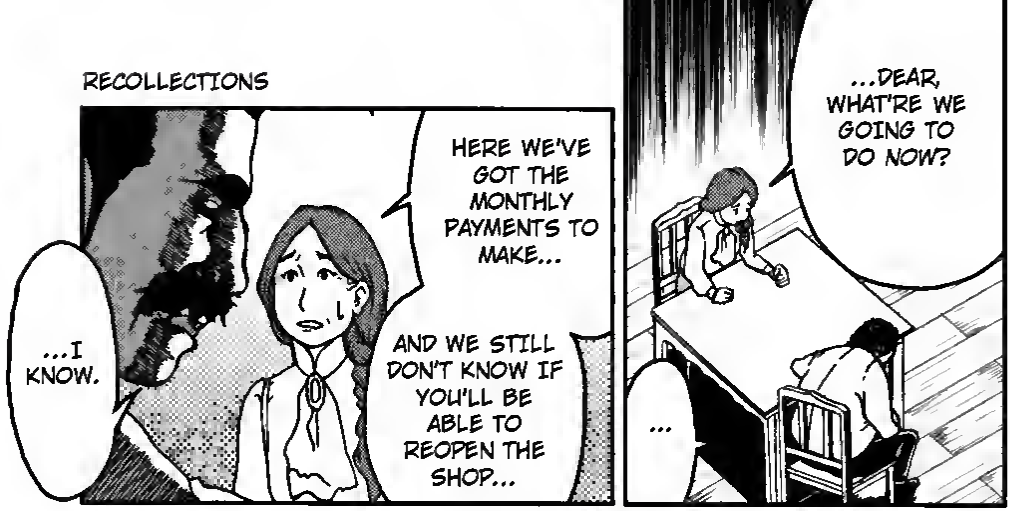
THE CZECHS TOOK OUT THEIR DISCONTENT ON THE JEWISH.
DON'T BUY FROM THIS JEW SHOP!!
GET OUT OF TOWN, JEW SHOP!!
...

YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
I CAN REBUILD THIS PLACE, NO PROBLEM.
YEAH... BUT.
GREG-OR..
YOU'VE GOT WORK TODAY, RIGHT? WHY AREN'T YOU AT THE OFFICE?
GET YOUR-SELF TO THE OFFICE *THIS INSTANT!*
I WENT THROUGH A LOT OF TROUBLE PULLING SOME STRINGS TO GET YOU THAT JOB. YOU WANT TO PUT THAT ALL TO WASTE?!
Shop - Samsa
MY FATHER'S BOUTIQUE WAS ONE OF THE LEADING HIGH-CLASS GOODS BOUTIQUES IN ALL OF PRAGUE'S BUSTLING STREETS.
...

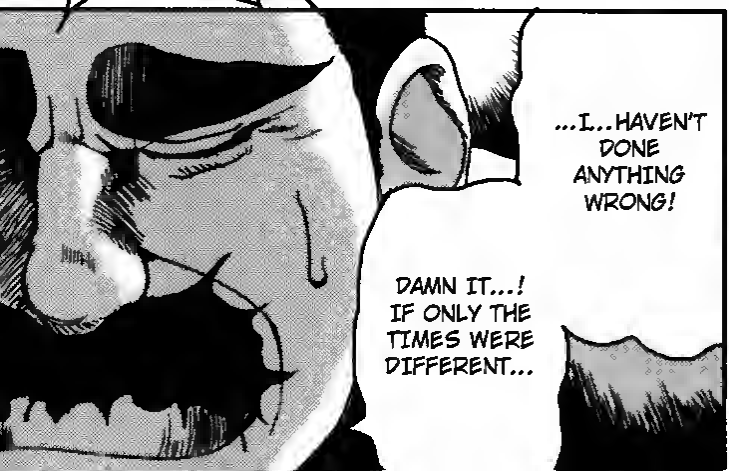
AND THE SHOP PROS-PERED BEYOND OUR WILDEST DREAMS.
FATHER DID CONSISTENT BUSINESS BY FOCUSING ENTIRELY ON THE WEALTHY POPULATION,

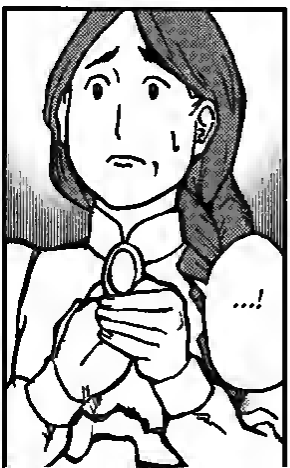

ENJOYED AN AFFLUENT LIFESTYLE OF GREAT COMFORT.
SO OUR FAMILY

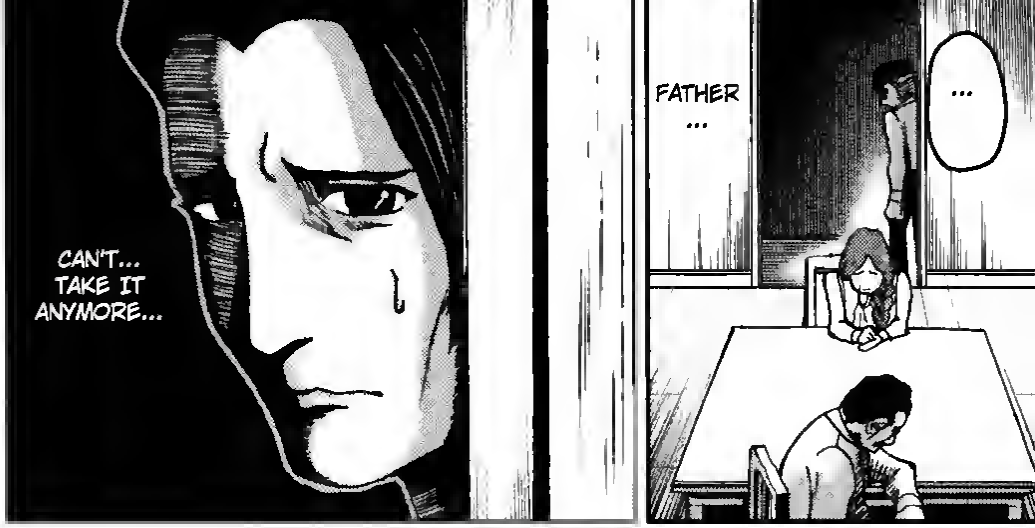

HOWEVER, THAT LIFESTYLE...
WOULD FALL APART IN A SINGLE DAY...

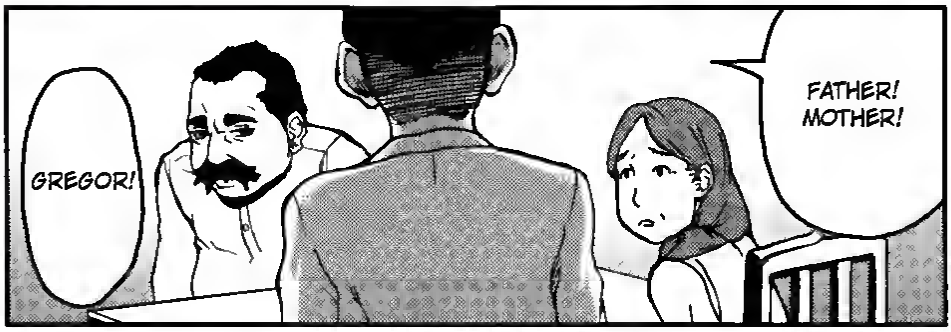

...DEAR, WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO NOW?
...
HERE WE'VE GOT THE MONTHLY PAYMENTS TO MAKE...
AND WE STILL DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REOPEN THE SHOP...
...I KNOW.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "I KNOW?"
WHAM
GET OFF MY BACK!


...I...HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG!
DAMN IT...! IF ONLY THE TIMES WERE DIFFERENT...

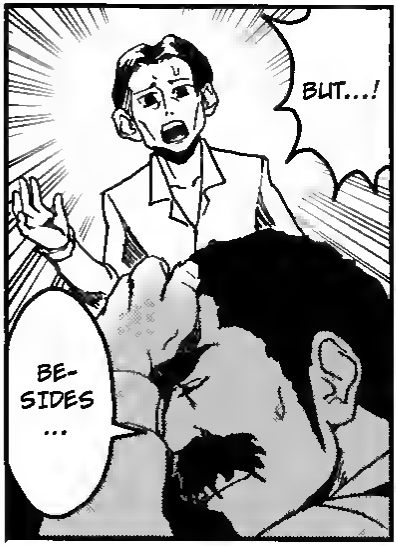

...!

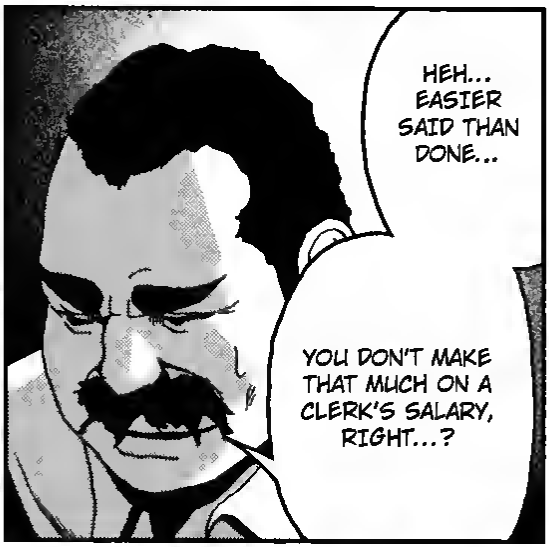

CAN'T... TAKE IT ANYMORE...
FATHER ...
...


GREGOR!
FATHER! MOTHER!

I'LL WORK!
I'LL WORK FATHER'S SHARE!

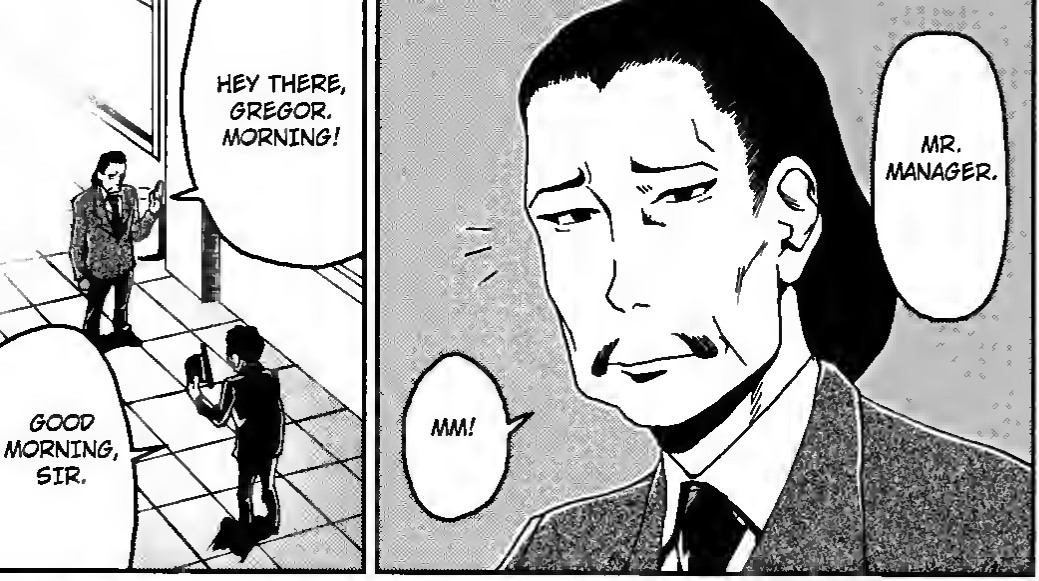
...
GREGOR.

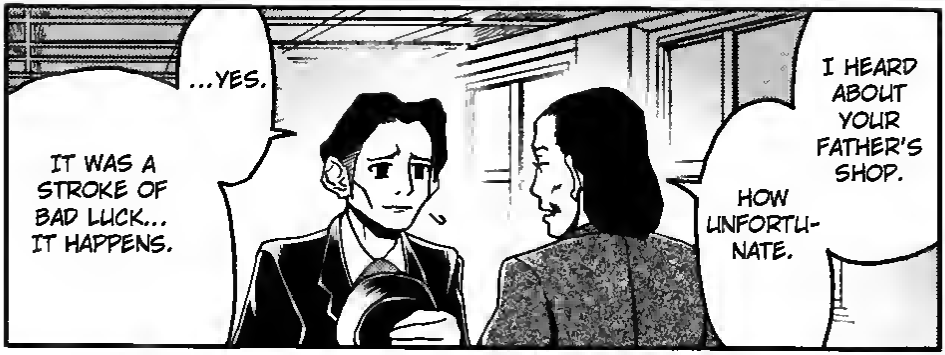

BUT...!
BE-
SIDES
...

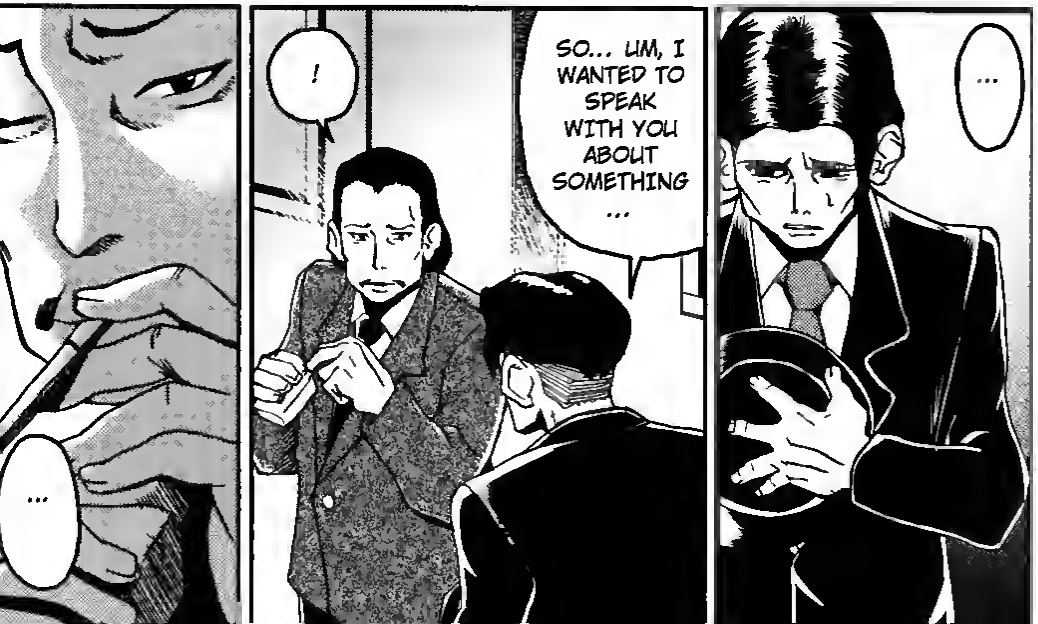

HEH...
EASIER
SAID THAN
DONE...
YOU DON'T MAKE
THAT MUCH ON A
CLERK'S SALARY,
RIGHT...?

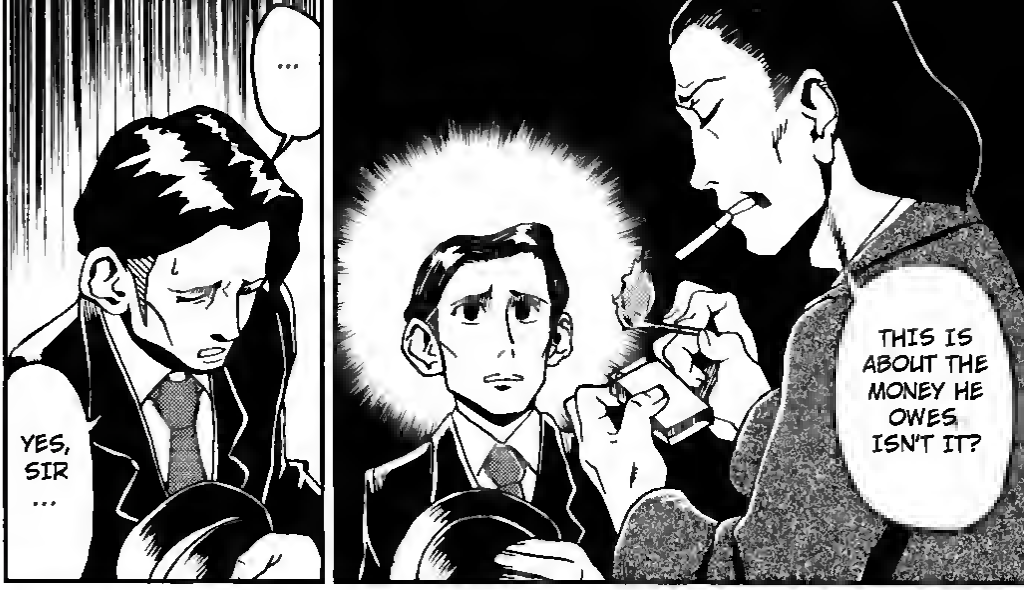
...
WHAT
?
I STILL
OWE
MONEY.
AND QUITE
A BIT AT
THAT...
AND I OWE
THAT
MONEY
TO YOUR
COMPANY.

THE COMPANY I WORK FOR...
IS A LARGE DOMESTIC FABRIC WHOLE-SALER.
MY COMPANY HAD A LONG-STANDING RELATION-SHIP WITH MY FATHER WHO MANAGED A BOUTIQUE.
AND IT WAS HIS RECOMMEN-DATION THAT GOT ME THIS JOB.

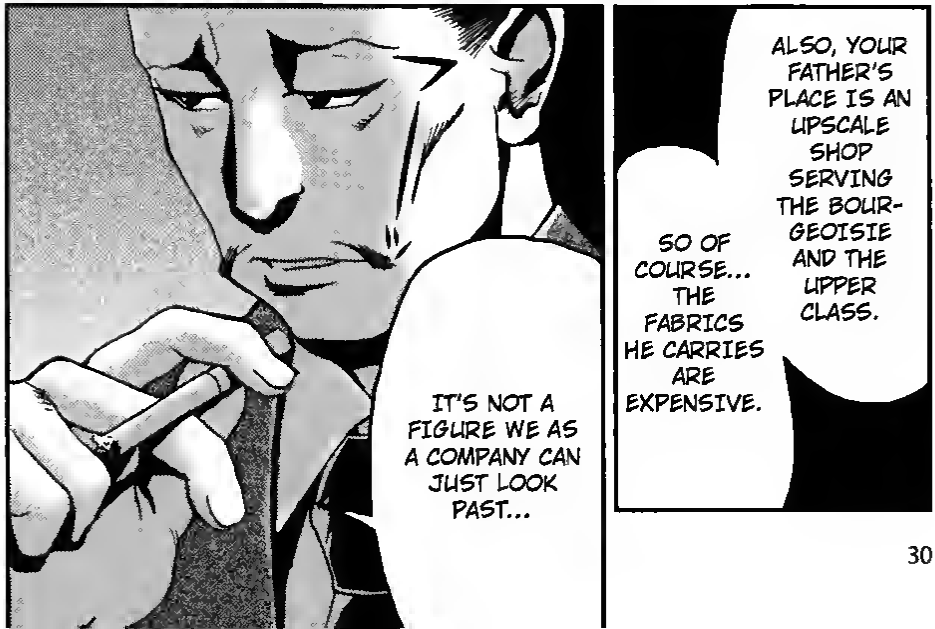

HEY THERE, GREGOR. MORNING!
GOOD MORNING, SIR.
MR. MANAGER.
MM!


...YES.
IT WAS A STROKE OF BAD LUCK... IT HAPPENS.
I HEARD ABOUT YOUR FATHER'S SHOP.
HOW UNFORTU-NATE.

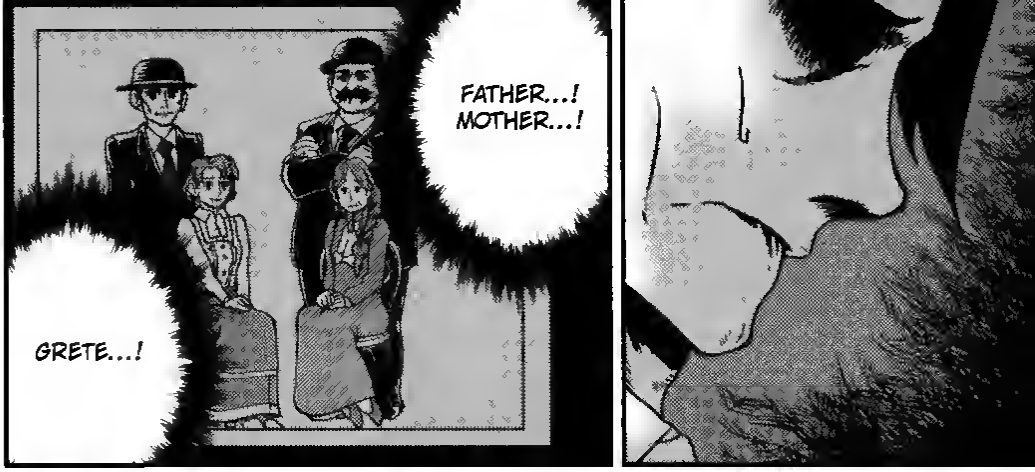

...
!
SO... UM, I WANTED TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT SOMETHING ...
...

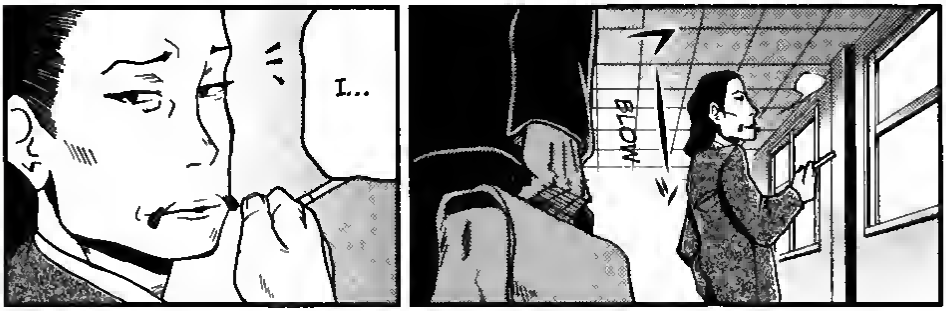

...
YES, SIR ...
THIS IS ABOUT THE MONEY HE OWES, ISN'T IT?

FLAME
I DO SYMPATHIZE WITH YOUR FATHER...
BUT WE'RE A BUSI-NESS HERE.
HE WILL PAY US WHAT HE OWES!


ALSO, YOUR FATHER'S PLACE IS AN UPSCALE SHOP SERVING THE BOUR-GEOISIE AND THE UPPER CLASS.
SO OF COURSE... THE FABRICS HE CARRIES ARE EXPENSIVE.
IT'S NOT A FIGURE WE AS A COMPANY CAN JUST LOOK PAST...

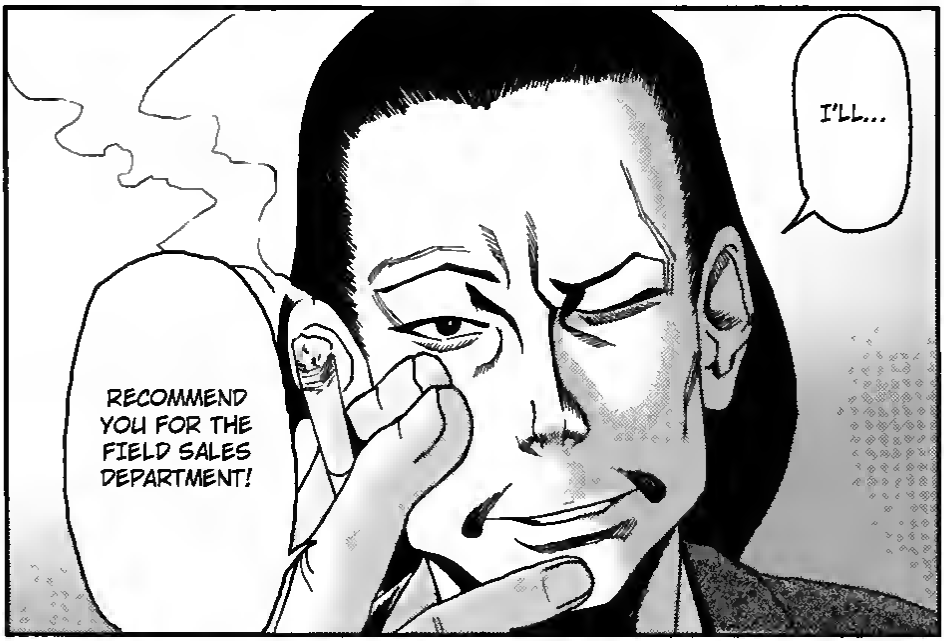
I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT WHETHER TO KEEP YOU ON OR NOT.
?!
I DON'T WANT TO BE THE ONE TO SAY THIS...
BUT IF YOUR FATHER IS GOING TO DEFAULT ON HIS PAYMENTS...
...!!
OH NO!
BUT EVEN SO, YOUR POSITION IN THIS COMPANY WILL MOST CERTAINLY WORSEN.
BY ALL RIGHTS THIS ISN'T AN ISSUE THAT DIRECTLY INVOLVES YOU.
YOUR FAMILY WOULD MOST LIKELY END UP WALKING THE STREETS.
AND THEN IF YOU WERE TO LOSE YOUR JOB...
WITH THE CURRENT STATE OF SOCIETY, IT'D PROBABLY BE HOPELESS TO REOPEN THE SHOP.

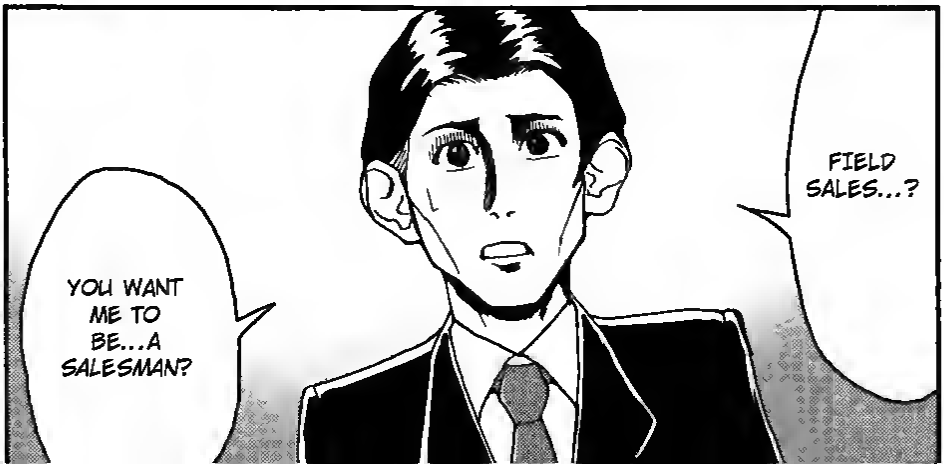

FATHER...!
MOTHER...!
GRETE...!


I...
BLOW

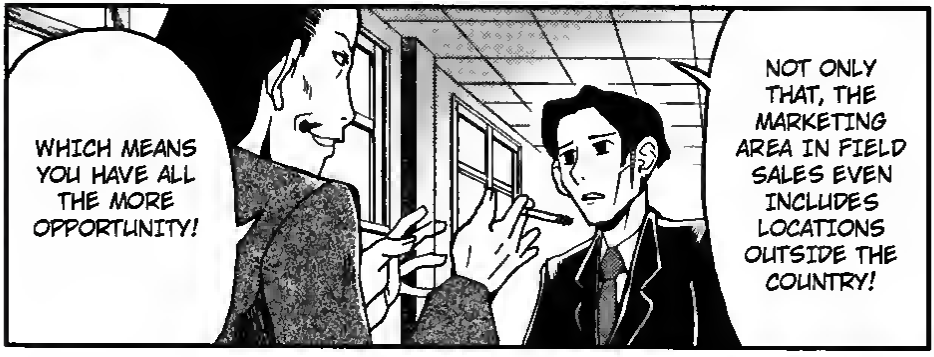
I WILL ...
I WILL REPAY MY FATHER'S DEBT!

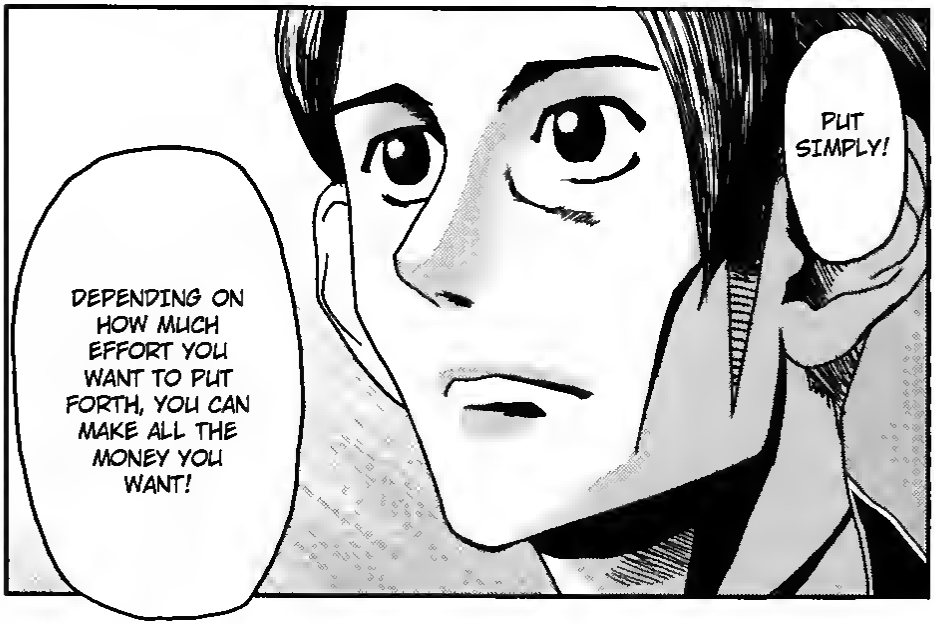
I KNOW!
WHO KNOWS HOW MANY YEARS IT'D TAKE YOU TO PAY BACK THE MONEY...
ALL THE SAME...ON YOUR PRESENT SALARY...


I'LL...
RECOMMEND YOU FOR THE FIELD SALES DEPARTMENT!


FIELD SALES...?
YOU WANT ME TO BE...A SALESMAN?

THE RESULTS OF YOUR WORK ARE REFLECTED IN YOUR SALARY AS COMMIS-SIONS!
INCOME IN SALES IS DRASTICALLY DIFFERENT THAN THAT OF A CLERK!
EXACT-LY!

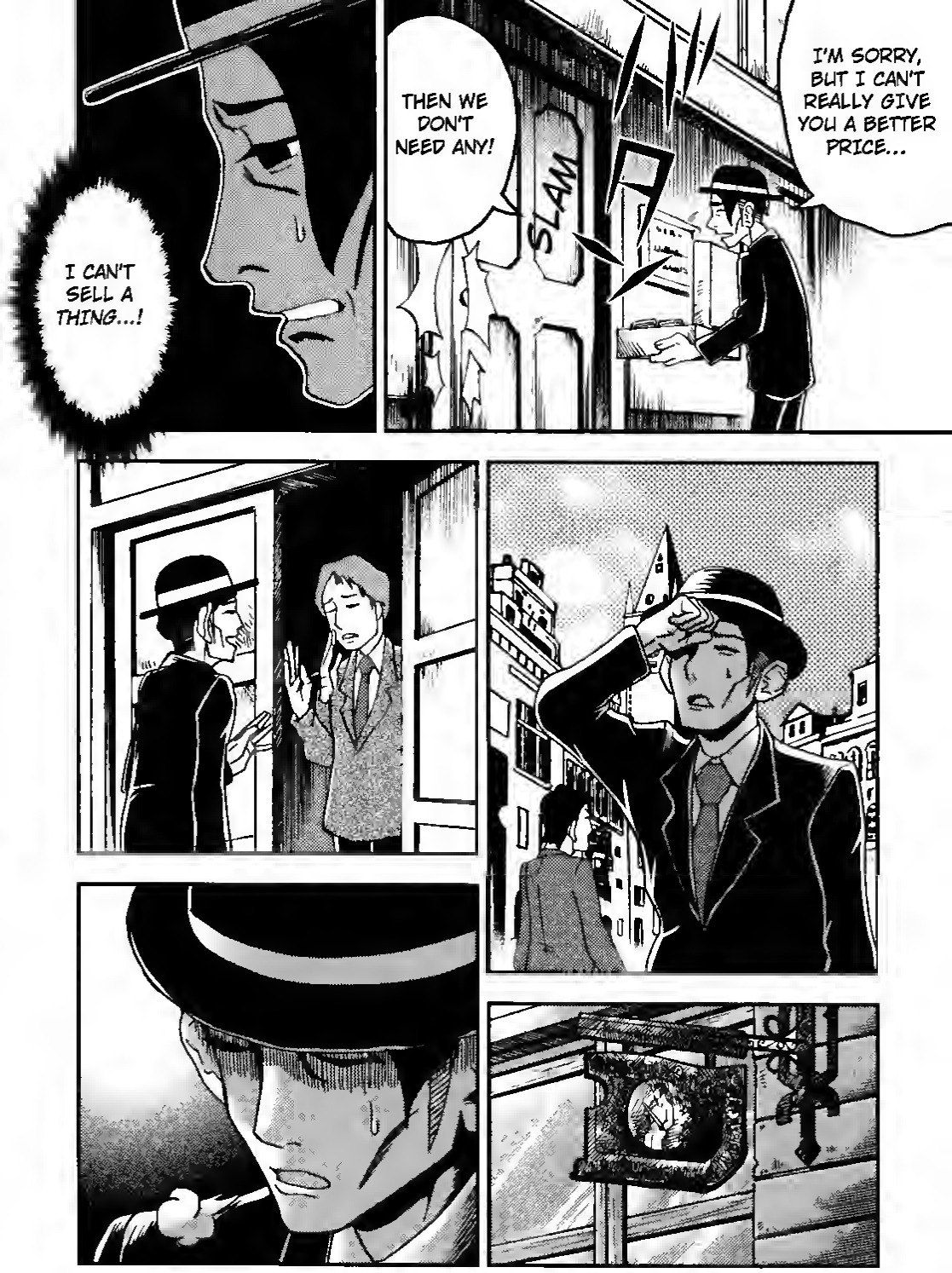

WHICH MEANS YOU HAVE ALL THE MORE OPPORTUNITY!
NOT ONLY THAT, THE MARKETING AREA IN FIELD SALES EVEN INCLUDES LOCATIONS OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY!


DEPENDING ON HOW MUCH EFFORT YOU WANT TO PUT FORTH, YOU CAN MAKE ALL THE MONEY YOU WANT!
PUT SIMPLY!

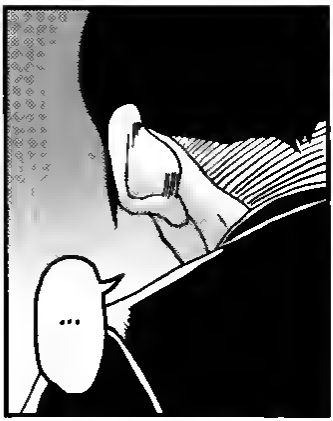
HOW ABOUT IT?!
YOU WANNA GIVE IT A GO?
...YES
I WOULD LOVE TO DO IT!

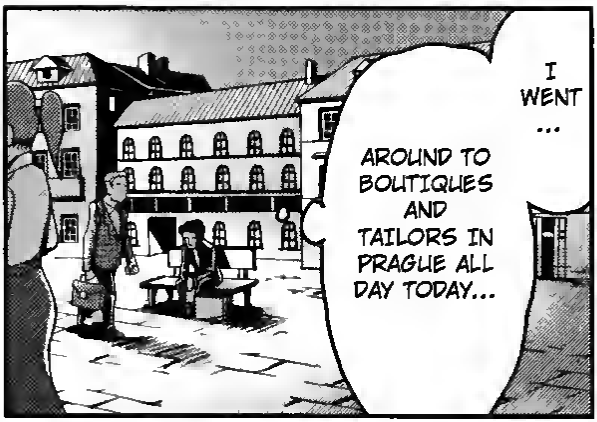
OKAY!
キュッ
TIGHTEN
GOT MY BUSINESS CARDS.
GOT THE ORDER SLIPS.
GOT THE CATA-LOGUES.
GOT THE SAMPLES.
...AL-RIGHT!

LET'S DO THIS!
IS ANYBODY HOME?!
MM..
WE ALREADY BUY OURS FROM A DIFFERENT COMPANY, YOU SEE...
MY NAME IS SAMSA AND I'M WITH FABRIC SALES.
I WOULD LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN TO HAVE YOU TRY SOME OF OUR FABRICS...
WE HAVE ALL WE NEED!
WHAT? DO I GET A BETTER PRICE?


I CAN'T SELL A THING...!
THEN WE DON'T NEED ANY!
SLAM
I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN'T REALLY GIVE YOU A BETTER PRICE...

カー カー
CAAAW-CAAAW

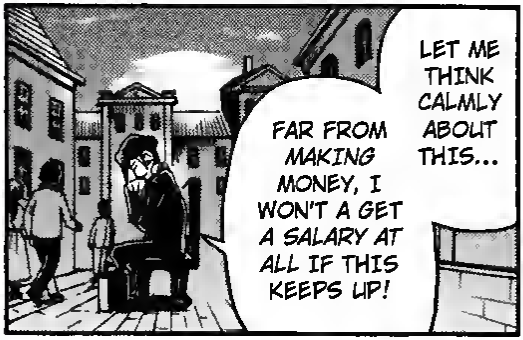

...

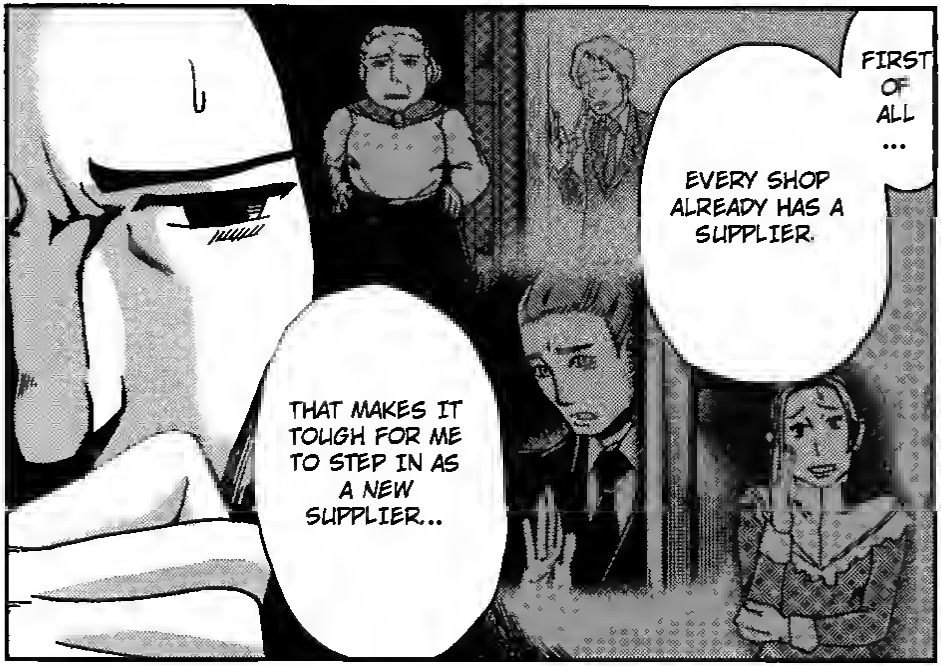

I WENT ...
AROUND TO BOUTIQUES AND TAILORS IN PRAGUE ALL DAY TODAY...

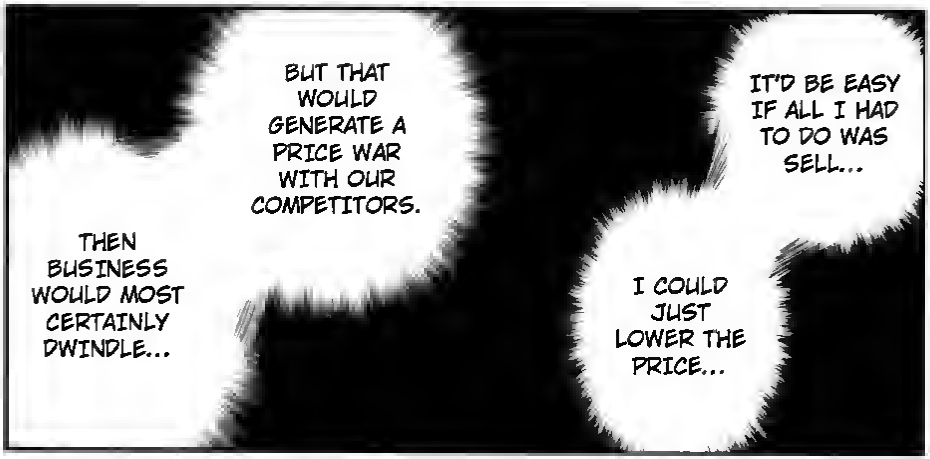
WHAT A LOAD OF DOUBLE TALK...!
MAKE MONEY?! MORE OPPORTU-NITIES?!
プル QUIVER
プル QUIVER

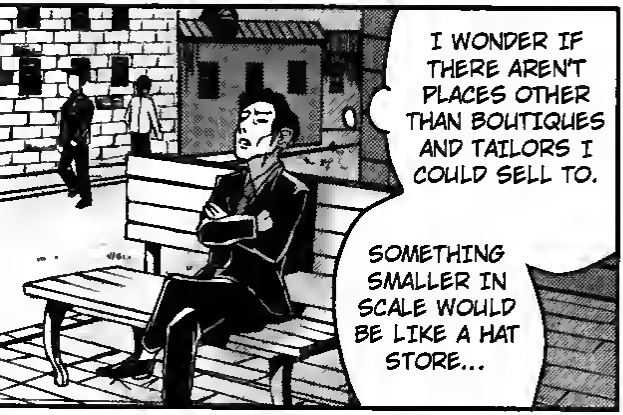
BUT I DIDN'T GET A SINGLE CONTRACT...!!

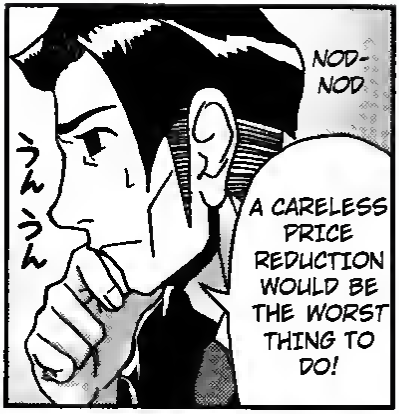
DID YOU CATCH A COLD, SIR?
?
AACHOO!!
...THAT THIN-MUSTACHED JERK!!

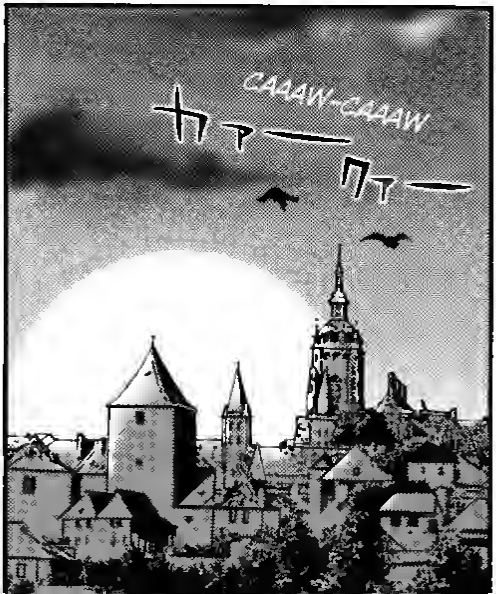

LET ME THINK CALMLY ABOUT THIS...
FAR FROM MAKING MONEY, I WON'T A GET A SALARY AT ALL IF THIS KEEPS UP!


FIRST OF ALL ...
EVERY SHOP ALREADY HAS A SUPPLIER.
THAT MAKES IT TOUGH FOR ME TO STEP IN AS A NEW SUPPLIER...


IT'D BE EASY IF ALL I HAD TO DO WAS SELL...
I COULD JUST LOWER THE PRICE...
BUT THAT WOULD GENERATE A PRICE WAR WITH OUR COMPETITORS.
THEN BUSINESS WOULD MOST CERTAINLY DWINDLE...


I WONDER IF THERE AREN'T PLACES OTHER THAN BOUTIQUES AND TAILORS I COULD SELL TO.
SOMETHING SMALLER IN SCALE WOULD BE LIKE A HAT STORE...

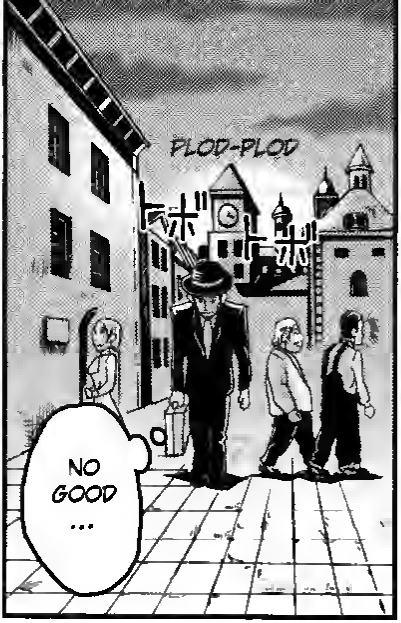

NOD-NOD
うんうん
A CARELESS PRICE REDUCTION WOULD BE THE WORST THING TO DO!

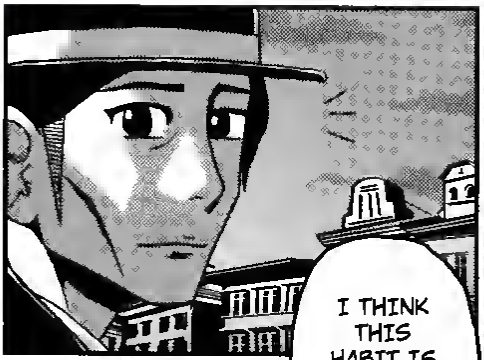

CAAAW-CAAAW
カァーカァー

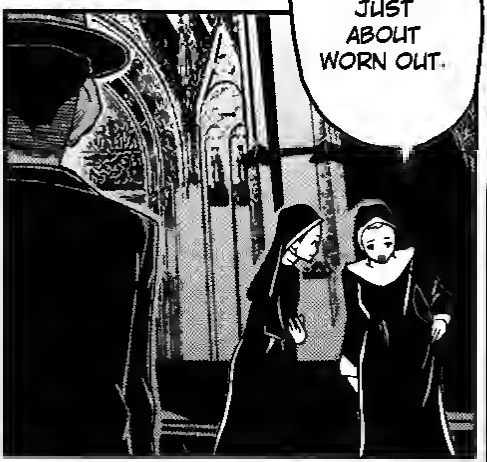
うーん

POOF

I CAN'T COME UP WITH A SOLUTION TO THIS...

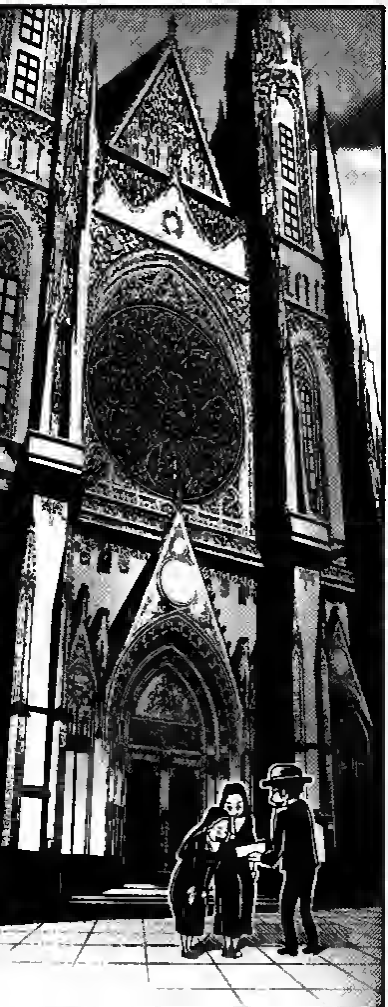

PLOD-PLOD
NO GOOD ...

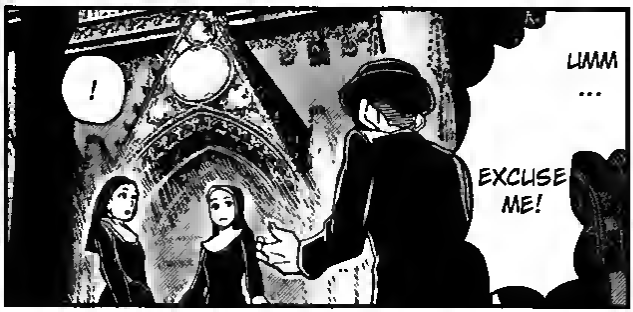

I THINK THIS HABIT IS JUST ABOUT WORN OUT.



AT ANY RATE, I'VE GOT TO MAKE THE ROUNDS AND GET AT LEAST ONE CONTRACT...
MAYBE I'LL HEAD OVER TO VIENNA TOMORROW...

WE CAN ONLY WEAR MENDED HABITS FOR SO LONG.
I COULD MAKE MY OWN IF ONLY I HAD SOME NEW FABRIC...
WE'VE BEEN WEARING THESE FOR YEARS, AFTER ALL. MINE'S TATTERED ALL OVER, TOO.

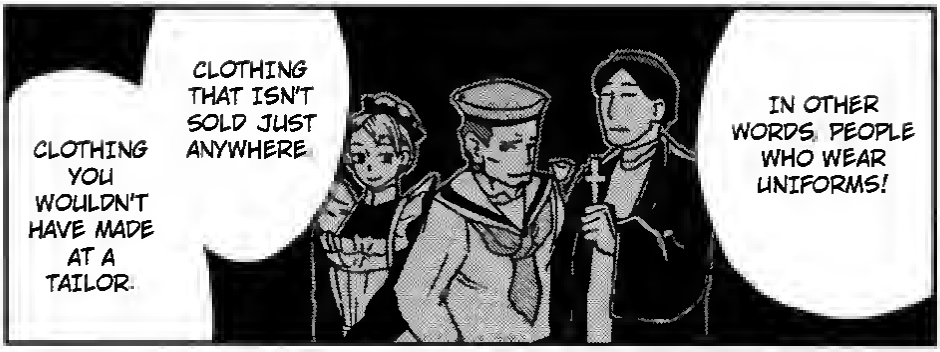



!
UMM ...
EXCUSE ME!

I HAPPEN TO BE SELLING FABRIC...

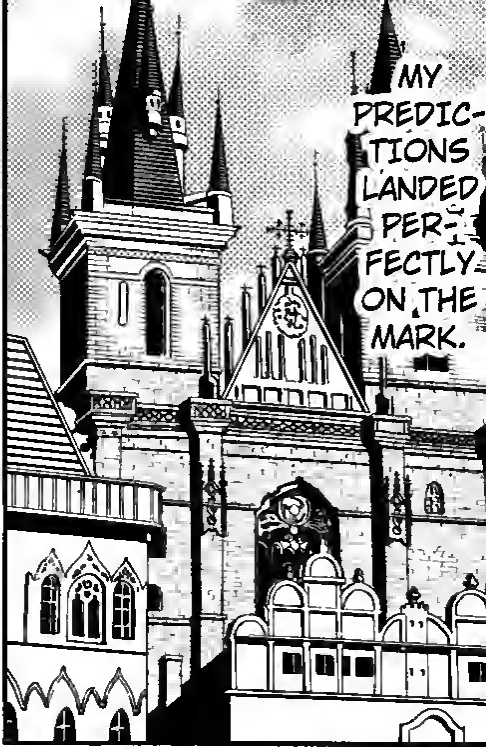
I DID IT...!
I SOLD SOMETHING ...!
OF COURSE ...!
THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE WHO NEED FABRIC!

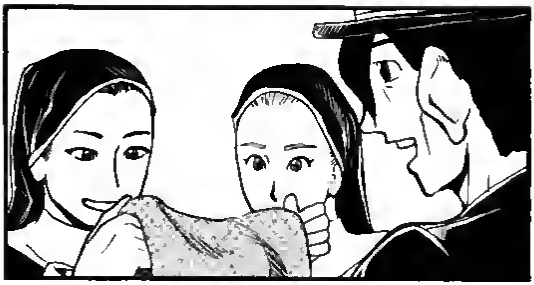
I'LL ALSO TRY GOING AROUND TO CHURCHES, NOT JUST CLOTHING SHOPS.
IN ADDITION TO CHURCHES, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO SELL TO OTHER PEOPLE WHO WEAR SPECIAL CLOTHING, TOO!


IN OTHER WORDS, PEOPLE WHO WEAR UNIFORMS!
CLOTHING THAT ISN'T SOLD JUST ANYWHERE
CLOTHING YOU WOULDN'T HAVE MADE AT A TAILOR.

GULP
THIS COULD WORK ...

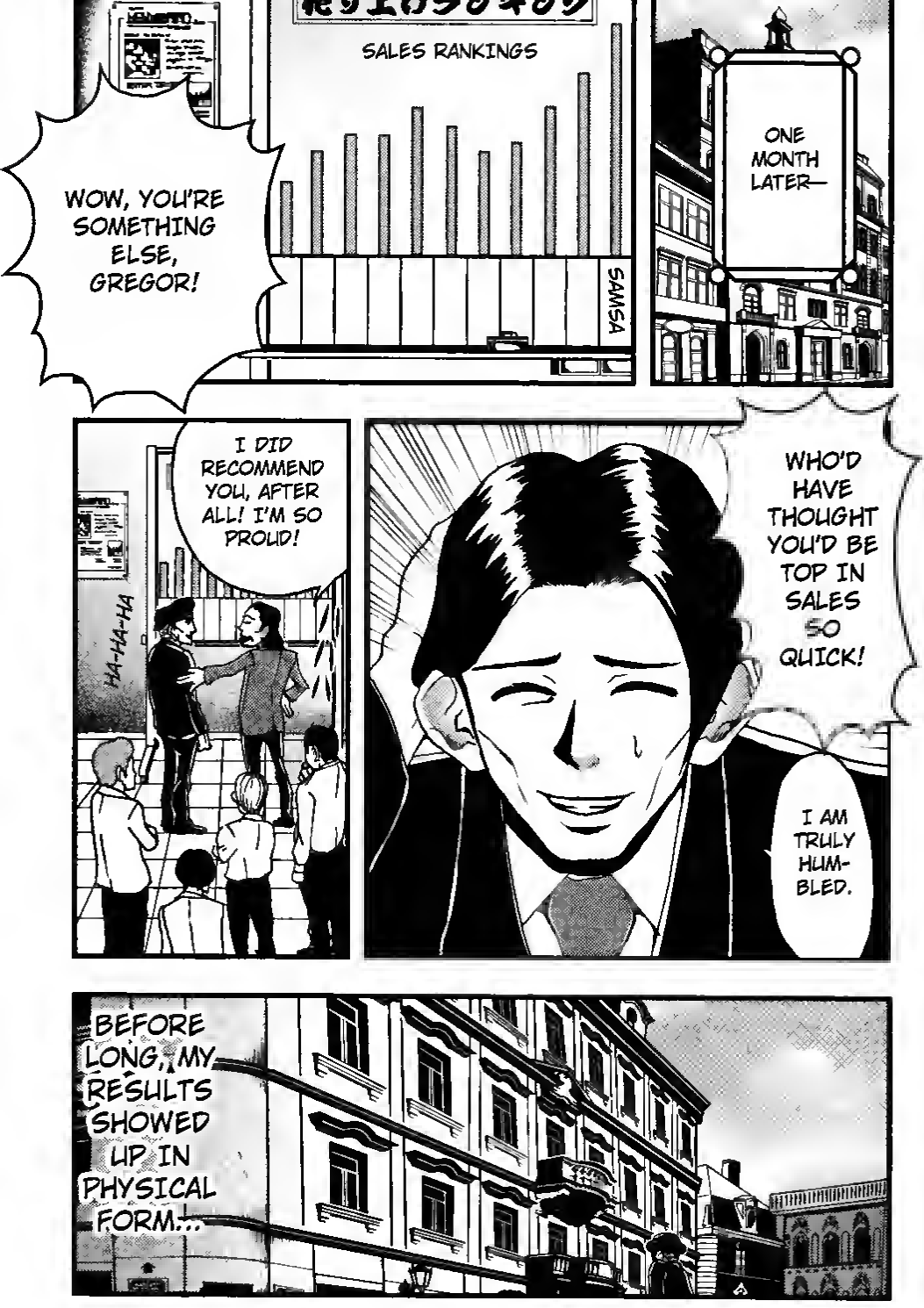
LET'S GET SELLING!!


MY PREDICTIONS LANDED PERFECTLY ON THE MARK.

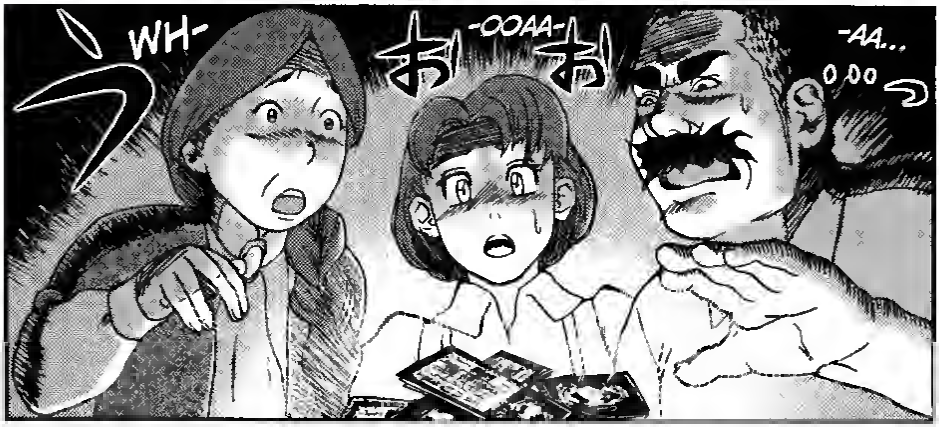


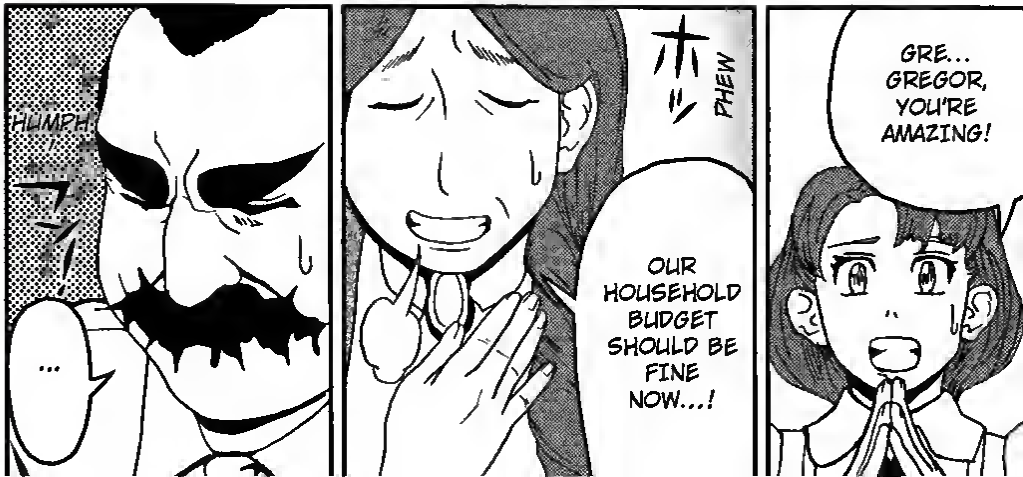
I HAD NO COMPETITION AT ALL, SO IT WAS A TOTAL MONOPOLY.

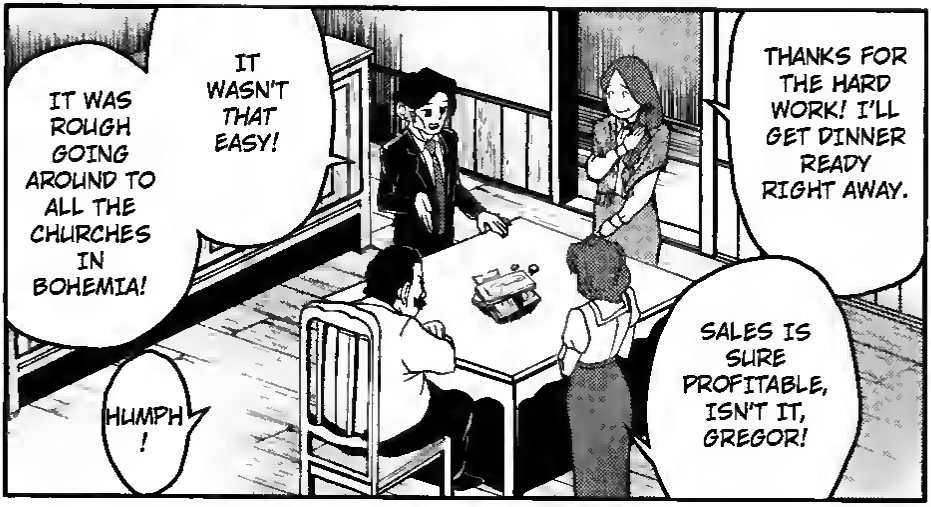
MY MERCHANDISE SOLD LIKE CRAZY.

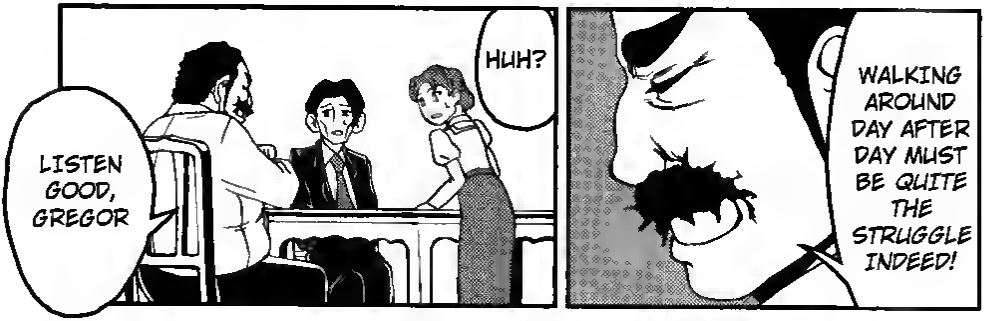

SALES RANKINGS
SAMSA
WOW, YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE, GREGOR!
ONE MONTH LATER—
I DID RECOMMEND YOU, AFTER ALL! I'M SO PROUD!
HA-HA-HA
WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT YOU'D BE TOP IN SALES SO QUICK!
I AM TRULY HUMBLED.
BEFORE LONG, MY RESULTS SHOWED UP IN PHYSICAL FORM...

FWUMP
THIS IS MY SALARY FOR THE MONTH.


WH-
-OOAA-
-AA..
0.00


HUMPH..
...
PHEW
OUR HOUSEHOLD BUDGET SHOULD BE FINE NOW...!
GRE... GREGOR, YOU'RE AMAZING!


IT WASN'T THAT EASY!
IT WAS ROUGH GOING AROUND TO ALL THE CHURCHES IN BOHEMIA!
HUMPH!
THANKS FOR THE HARD WORK! I'LL GET DINNER READY RIGHT AWAY.
SALES IS SURE PROFITABLE, ISN'T IT, GREGOR!

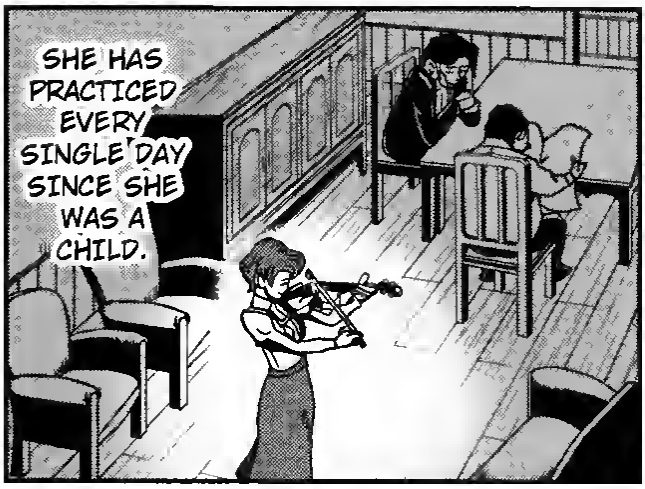

HUH?
LISTEN GOOD, GREGOR
WALKING AROUND DAY AFTER DAY MUST BE QUITE THE STRUGGLE INDEED!

...
IN THE FIRST PLACE...THE OUTSIDE SALES APPROACH IS ARCHAIC AND INEFFICIENT!
TAP-TAP
YOU DON'T MAKE MONEY IN BUSINESS ...
ON YOUR FEET...YOU MAKE MONEY WITH THIS!

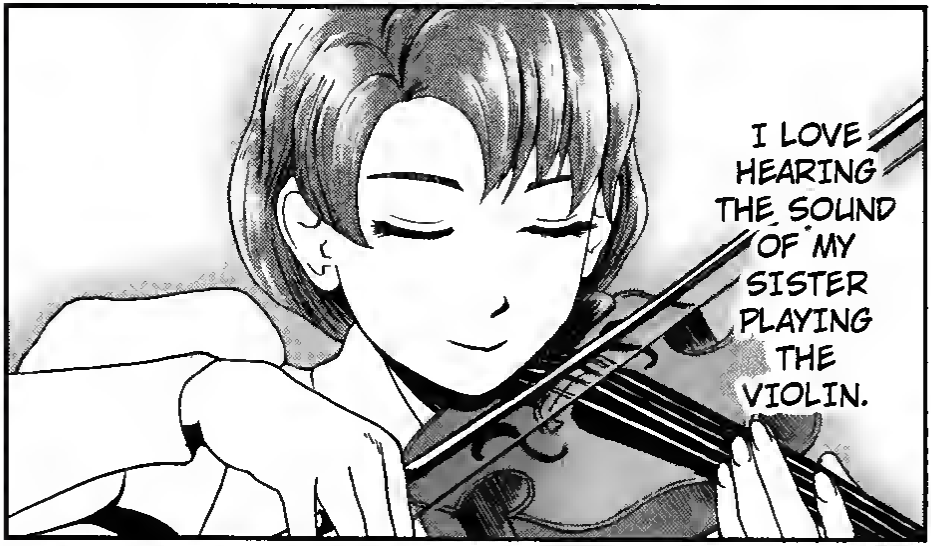
WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT I'VE HAD TO WORK SO HARD...?
...I MEAN..
YOU'VE GOT TO ALWAYS BE THINKING ONE OR TWO STEPS AHEAD BEFORE YOU ACT!
DON'T THINK YOU'LL ALWAYS BE ABLE TO MAKE MONEY LIKE THAT.
YOU SHOULD WORK A LITTLE YOURSELF!
WITH THE DEVELOP-MENT OF THE MARKET ECONOMY ...
BUSINESS STARTED IN THE 19TH CENTURY ...
ALL YOU'VE DONE IS HANG AROUND THE HOUSE AFTER THE SHOP WENT UNDER...
くどい RANT
くどい RANT
RANT くどい
RANT くどい
IT IS THANKS TO HIM THAT I WAS able TO GET THE JOB I HAVE AT THE COMPANY...
BUT, TO BE FAIR,
うん
ぬん BLAH
EFFECTS OF THE INDUS-TRIAL...
かん
ぬん BLAH
REVO-LUTION, CAPITAL-ISM, BLAH BLAH...
IT NEVER ENDS AFTER THIS POINT...

IN SHORT, DO YOU UNDER-STAND...
WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY, GREGOR?
IT'D PROBABLY BE TOUGH TO MAKE THIS MUCH MONEY SOMEWHERE ELSE...
HM? ...UH.
WELL, AS LONG AS YOU UNDERSTAND ...
GRIN GRIN
I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU, FATHER.
YES, I DO.
IT'S THANKS TO YOU THAT I CAN MAKE THE MONEY I AM NOW.
DINNER'S READY—

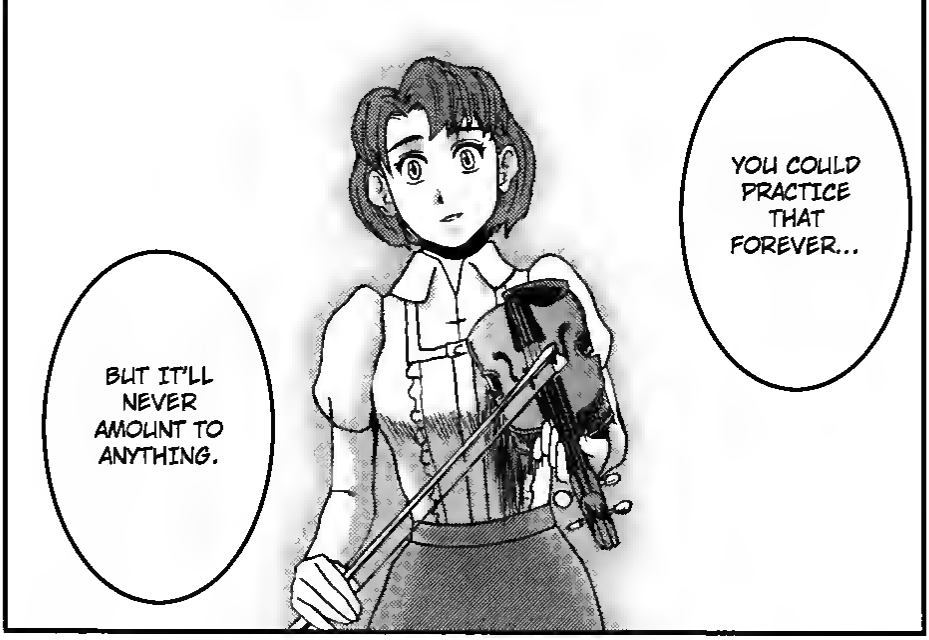
カチャ
CLINK
SCRUB
SCRUB
SQUEAK
キィ
プカ
PUFF

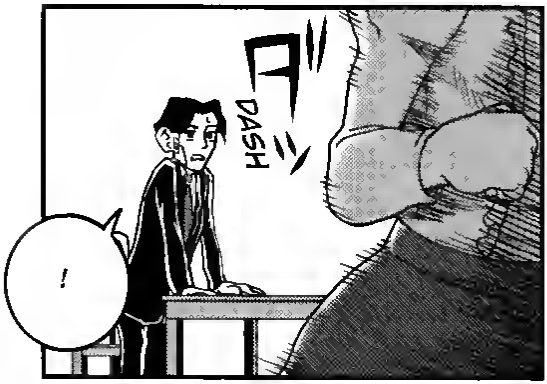

SHE HAS PRACTICED EVERY SINGLE DAY SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD.

GRETE IS AN EXPERT VIOLIN-IST.


I LOVE HEARING THE SOUND OF MY SISTER PLAYING THE VIOLIN.

WHAT A RACKET...
ホニ ホニ
PICK-PICK


YOU COULD PRACTICE THAT FOREVER...
BUT IT'LL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING.


DASH
!

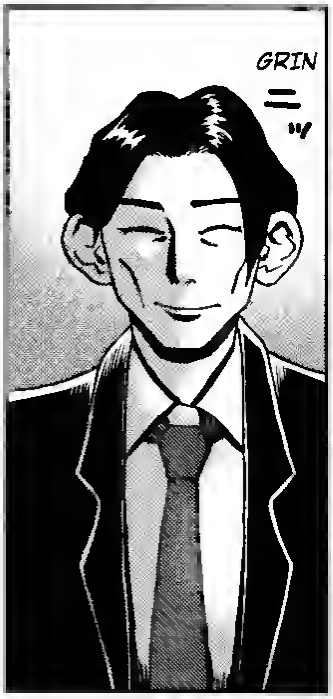
...!!

KER-CHAK
GRETE!
DASH

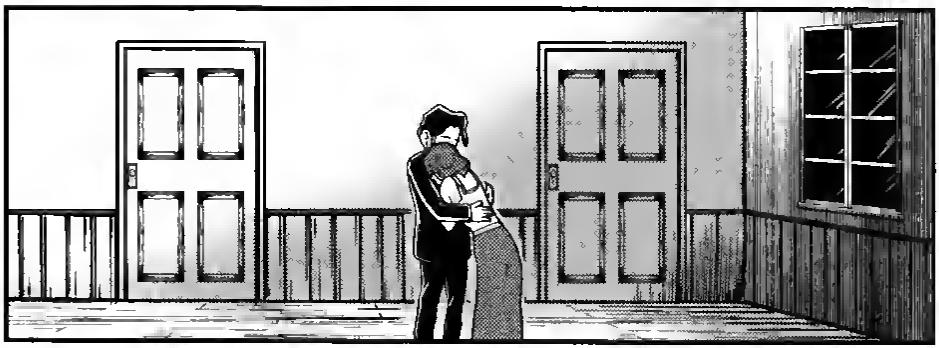
...

DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO WHAT FATHER SAYS!
GREGOR ...
GRETE!
IT'S OKAY... FROM NOW ON I'LL PRACTICE QUIETLY IN MY ROOM.
...
SNIFFLE...
I JUST LIKE PLAYING THE VIOLIN, THAT'S ALL...
HOW CAN HE SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT...?
!
GRETE!

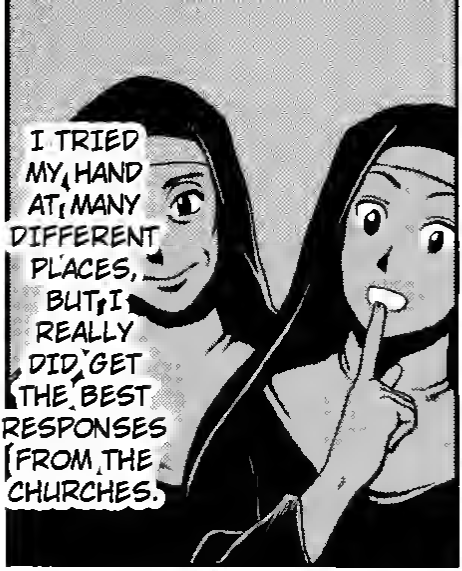
YOU'RE GOING TO MUSIC SCHOOL!
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PRACTICE ALL YOU WANT IN THE BEST OF SURROUNDINGS!
...FATHER WOULD NEVER LET ME DO THAT.
IT'LL BE OKAY! LEAVE IT TO ME!
I'LL EARN THE TUITION! I WON'T LET HIM OBJECT!


GRIN

GREGOR...



CLANK
CLANK
SEVERAL MONTHS LATER
SINCE I HAD ALREADY MADE MY WAY TO ALL THE CHURCHES IN BOHEMIA,
SO I WENT TO VIENNA.
I CAME ON A SEARCH FOR NEW CLIENTS FOR MY BUSINESS.

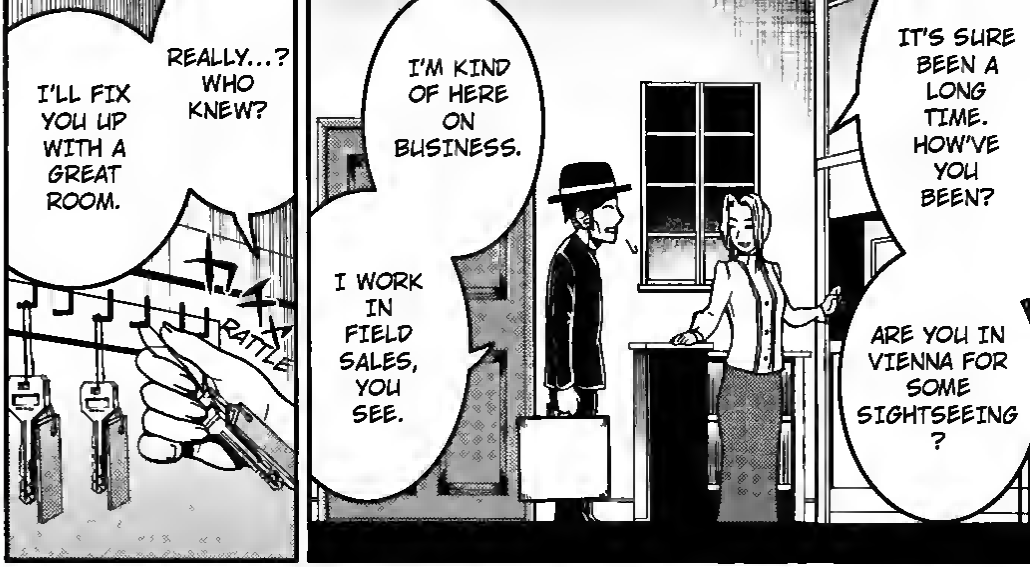

I TRIED MY HAND AT MANY DIFFERENT PLACES, BUT I REALLY DID GET THE BEST RESPONSES FROM THE CHURCHES.

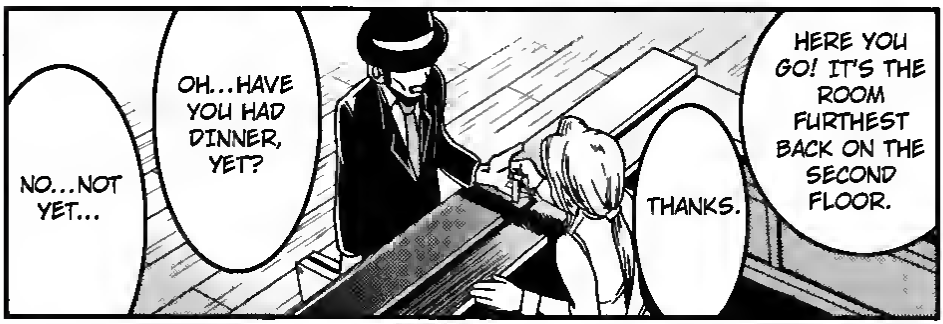
AT THE TIME, I WAS TRAVELING ABOUT SELLING PRIMARILY TO CHURCHES.

AT FIRST, I'D PLANNED ON TWO OR THREE DAYS, BUT BEFORE I KNEW IT I'D STAYED ONE AND THEN TWO WEEKS LONGER...
HERE TOO, MY PRODUCTS SOLD LIKE HOTCAKES.

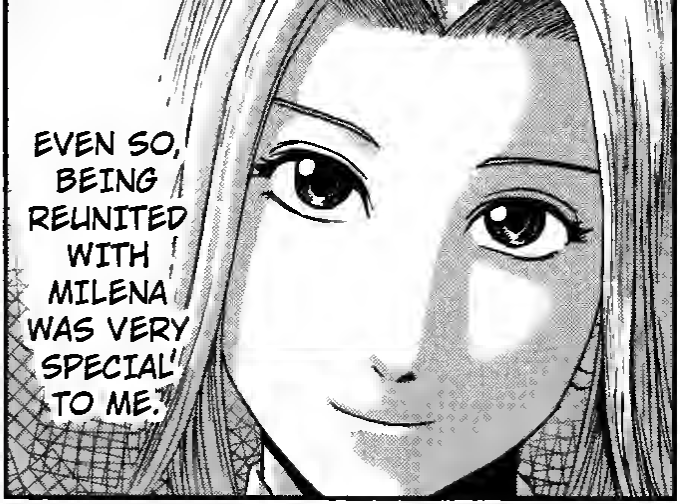
I THINK I'LL STAY HERE TONIGHT.

I'D LIKE TO STAY FOR TWO OR THREE NIGHTS. ARE THERE ANY ROOMS AVAILABLE?
!
CAN I HELP YOU?!
...BY ANY CHANCE, IS THAT YOU, SAMSA?
WHAT?
...? UMM...
?
STARE
...
...OH.
IT'S ME, MILENA! MILENA JESENSKA!
REMEMBER...?! WE WERE IN GYMNASIUM TOGETHER..

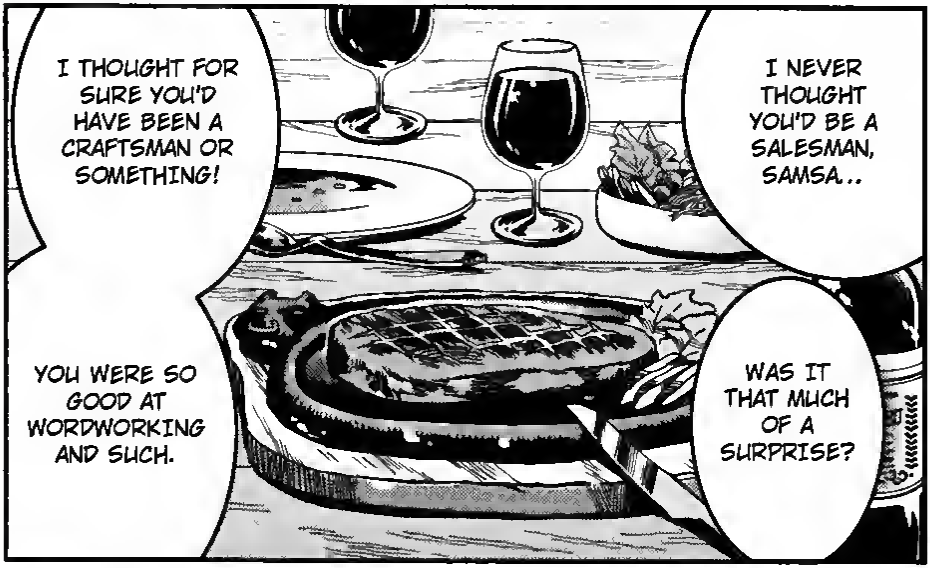

I'LL FIX YOU UP WITH A GREAT ROOM.
REALLY...? WHO KNEW?
RATTLE
I'M KIND OF HERE ON BUSINESS.
I WORK IN FIELD SALES, YOU SEE.
IT'S SURE BEEN A LONG TIME. HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
ARE YOU IN VIENNA FOR SOME SIGHTSEEING?

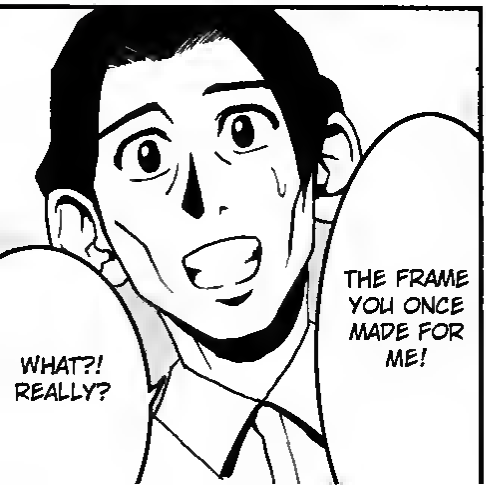

NO...NOT YET...
OH...HAVE YOU HAD DINNER, YET?
THANKS.
HERE YOU GO! IT'S THE ROOM FURTHEST BACK ON THE SECOND FLOOR.

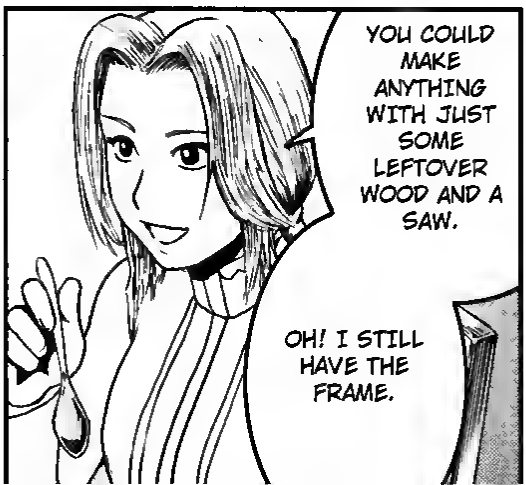
OH...SURE, I'D LOVE TO!
I'M JUST ABOUT DONE WITH WORK SO HOW ABOUT EATING TO-GETHER?
GREAT!

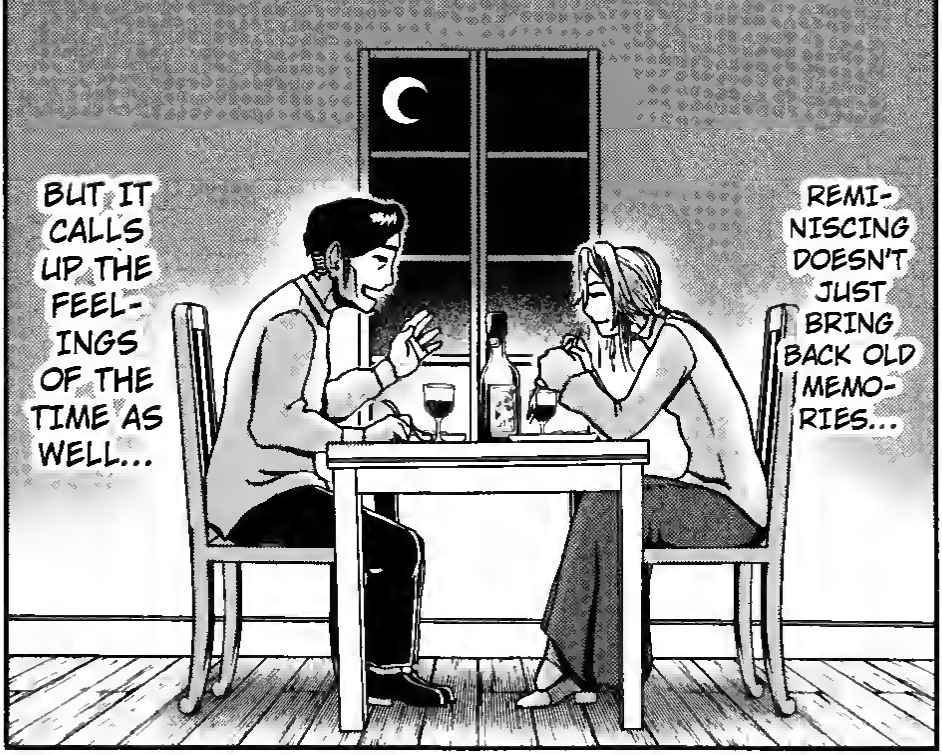


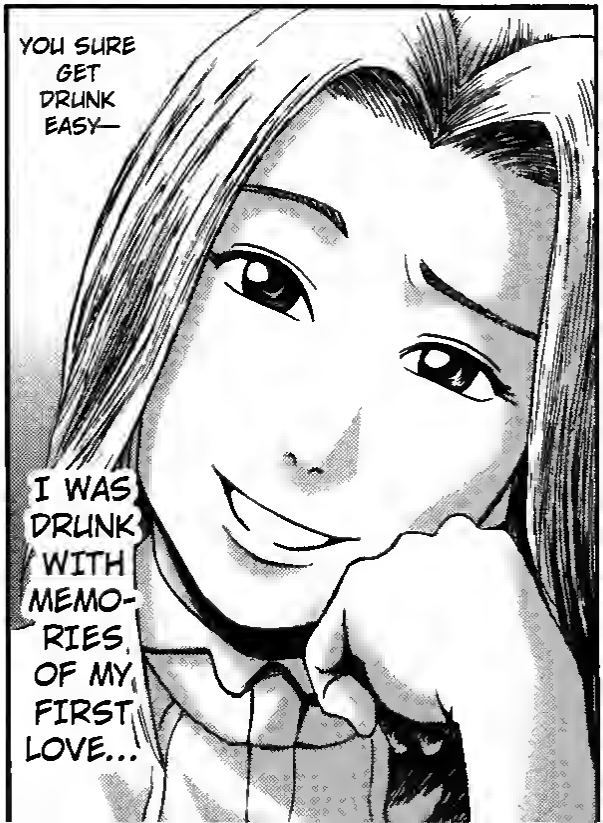
BEING REUNITED WITH OLD ACQUAINTANCES ISN'T ALL THAT RARE WHEN DOING FIELD WORK.


I THOUGHT FOR SURE YOU'D HAVE BEEN A CRAFTSMAN OR SOMETHING!
I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D BE A SALESMAN, SAMSA...
YOU WERE SO GOOD AT WORDWORKING AND SUCH.
WAS IT THAT MUCH OF A SURPRISE?

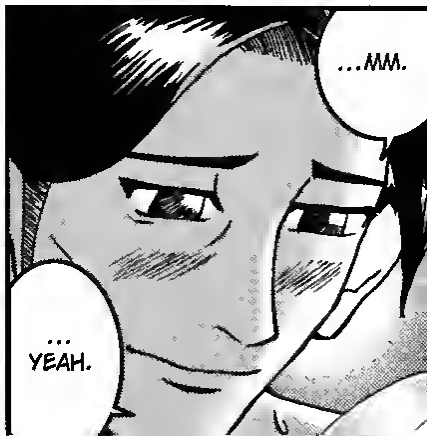


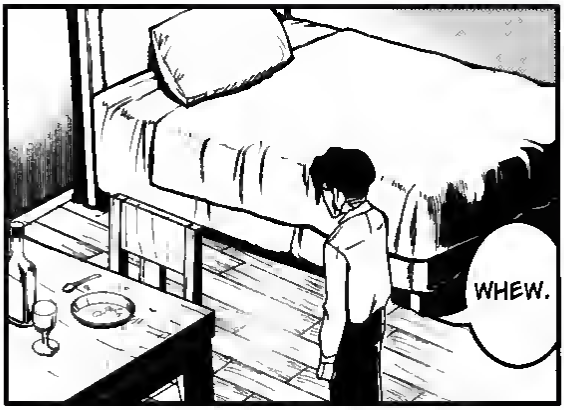



BUT IT CALLS UP THE FEEL-INGS OF THE TIME AS WELL...
REMI-NISCING DOESN'T JUST BRING BACK OLD MEMO-RIES...

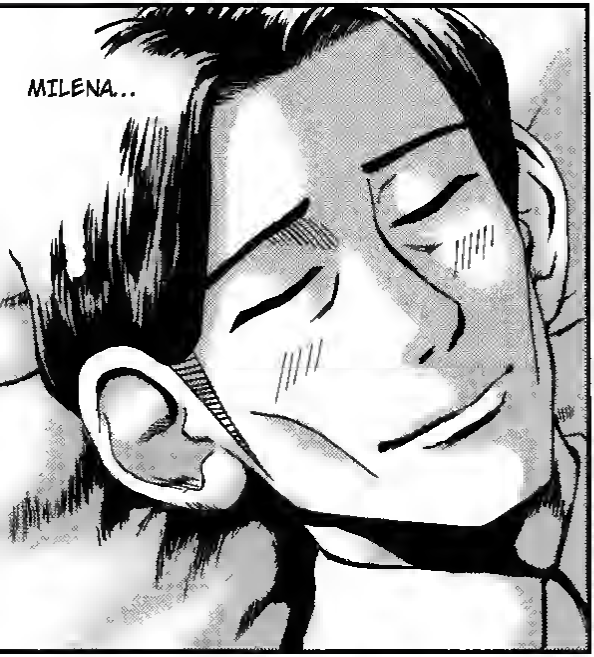

YOU SURE GET DRUNK EASY—
I WAS DRUNK WITH MEMO-RIES OF MY FIRST LOVE...

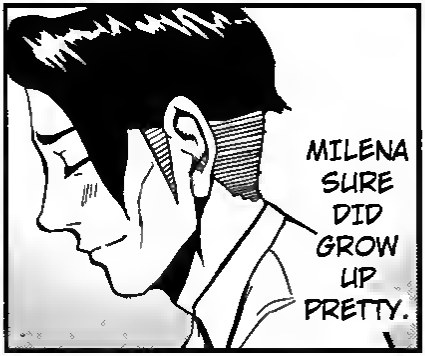
YOUR FACE IS RED. ARE YOU DRUNK ALREADY?

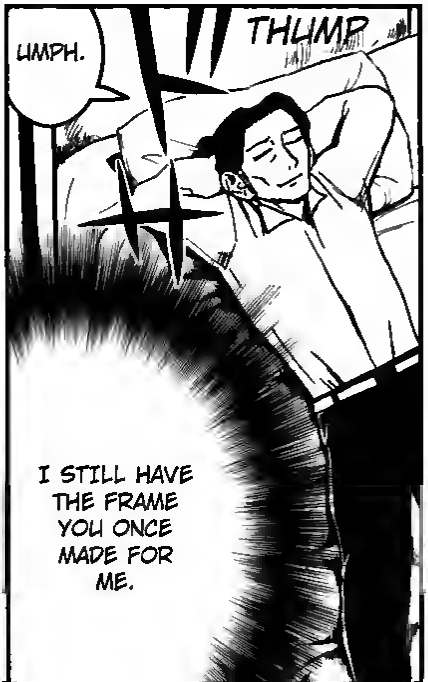

...MM.
... YEAH.

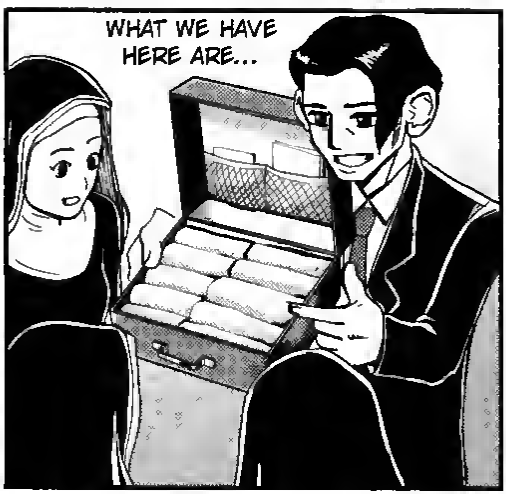

WHEW.

GOOD NIGHT.
SEE YOU TOMORROW THEN.

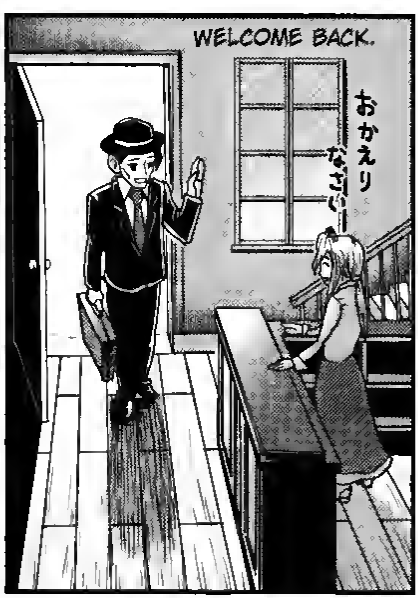

MILENA..

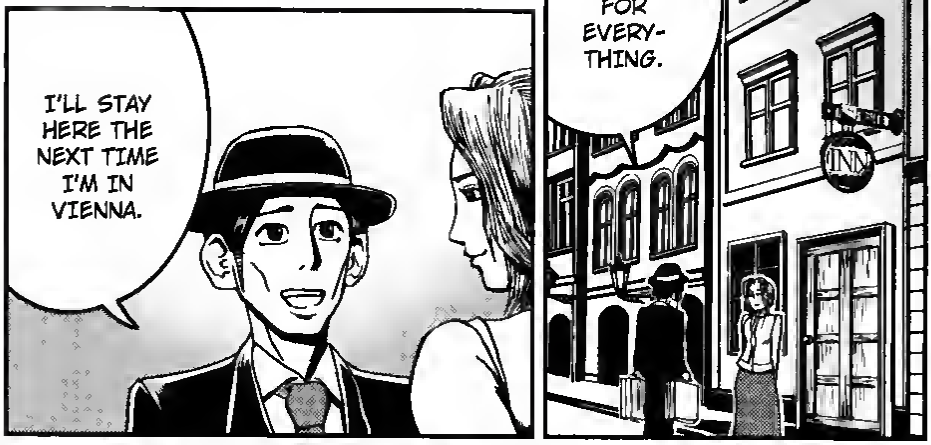

MILENA SURE DID GROW UP PRETTY.

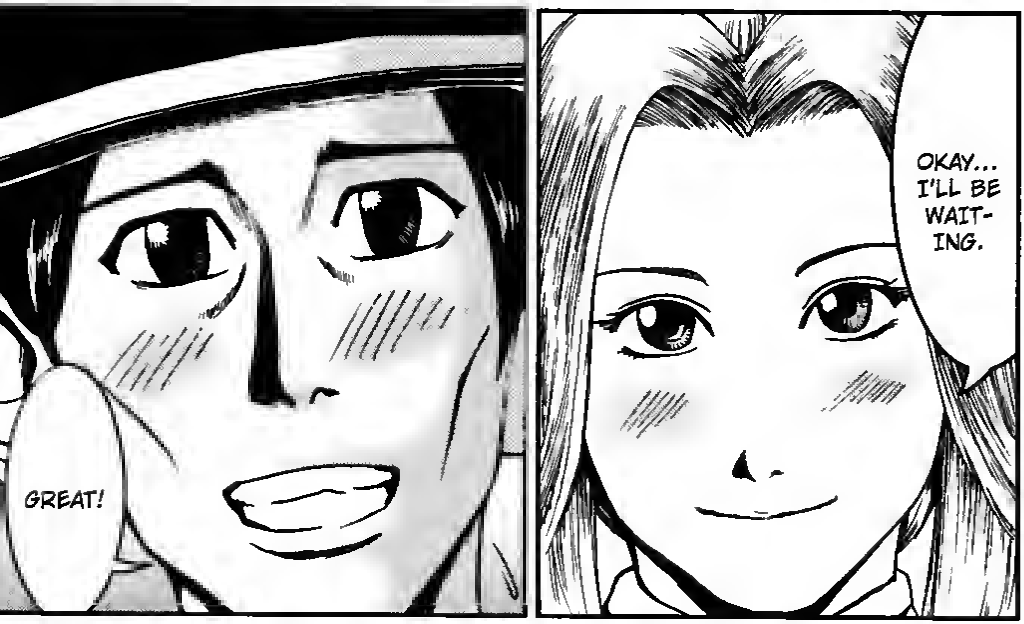

THUMP
UMPH.
I STILL HAVE THE FRAME YOU ONCE MADE FOR ME.

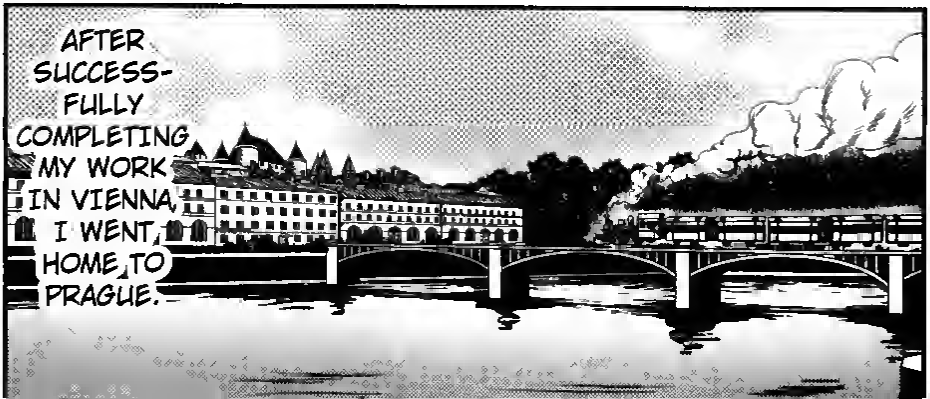

WHAT WE HAVE HERE ARE...

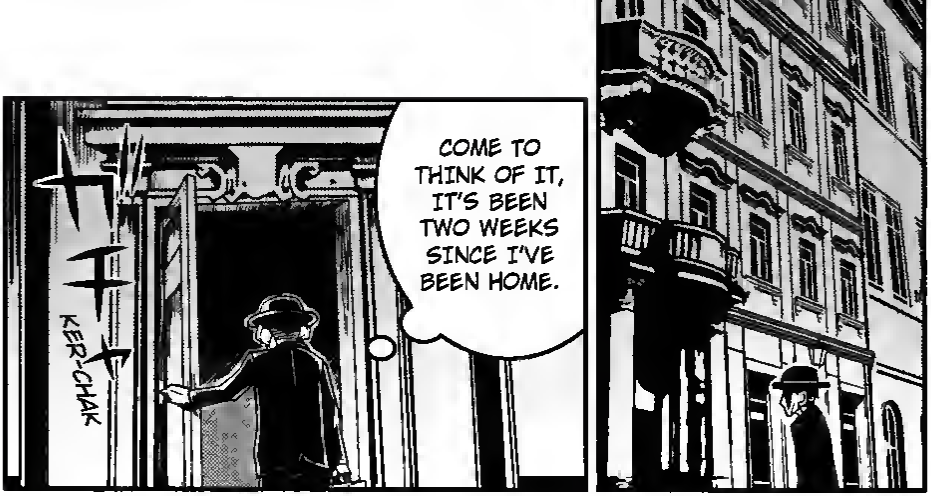
OKAY, NOW FOR TODAY'S ORDERS ...

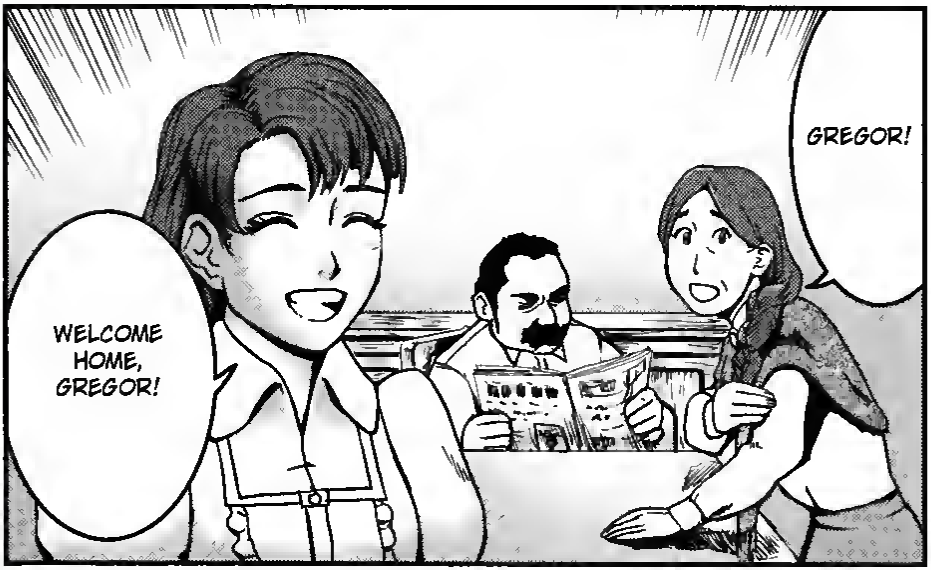

WELCOME BACK.
おかえりなさい

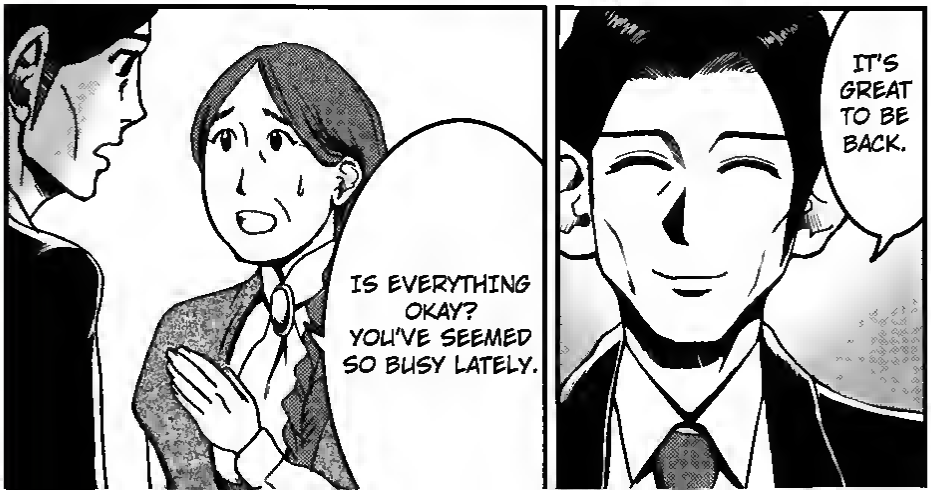

I'LL STAY HERE THE NEXT TIME I'M IN VIENNA.
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
INN


GREAT!
OKAY... I'LL BE WAIT-ING.

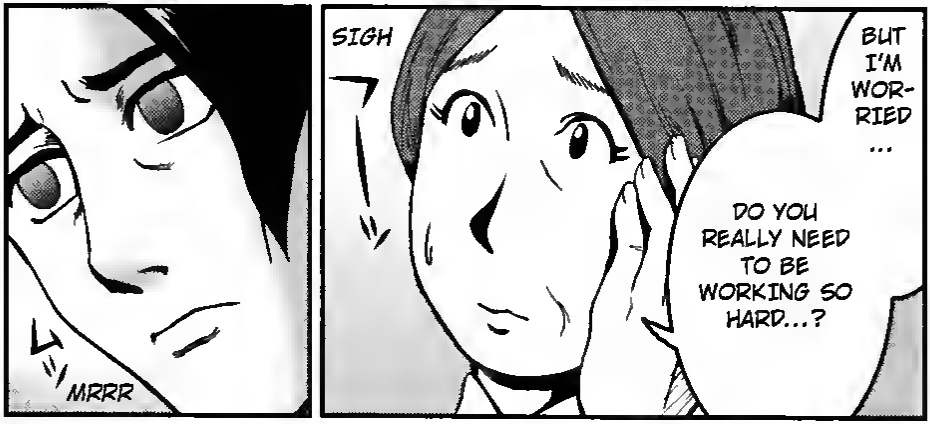

AFTER SUCCESS-FULLY COMPLETING MY WORK IN VIENNA, I WENT HOME TO PRAGUE.


KER-CHAK
COME TO THINK OF IT, IT'S BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE I'VE BEEN HOME.

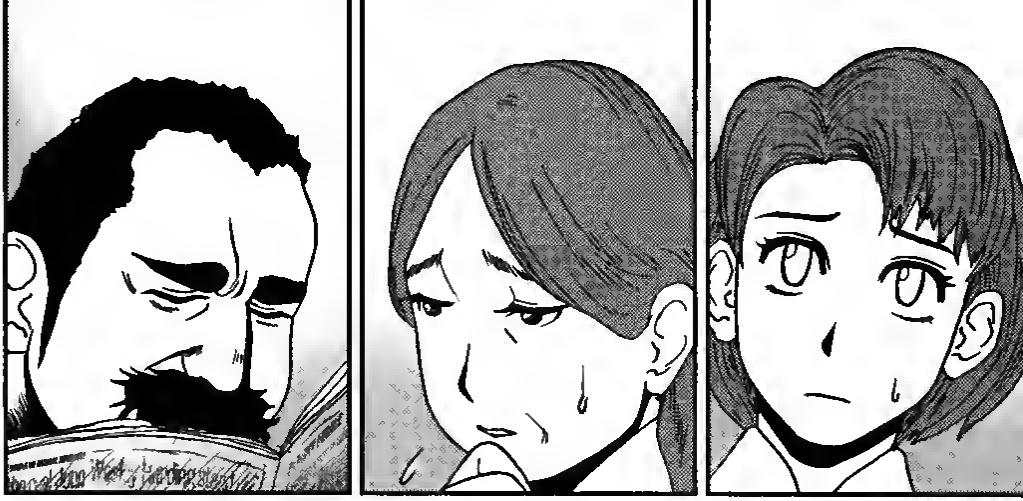

GREGOR!
WELCOME HOME, GREGOR!

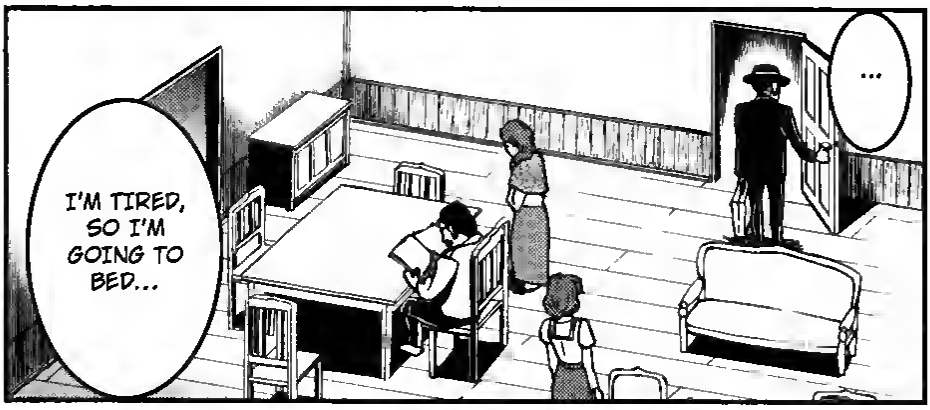

IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK.
IS EVERYTHING OKAY? YOU'VE SEEMED SO BUSY LATELY.

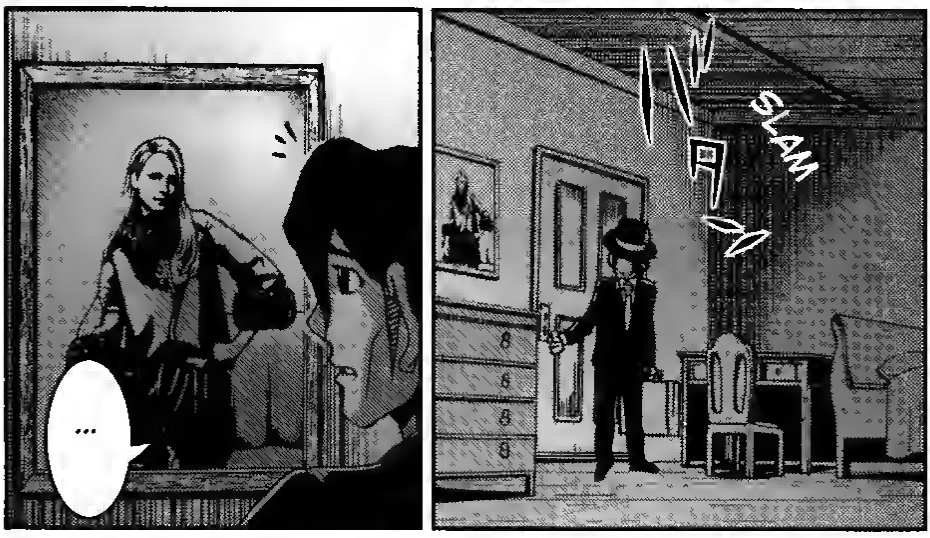
MOTHER! I'M NOT A KID, ANYMORE!
ALL THE SAME...
ARE YOU MAKING SURE TO EAT?
WELL...I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE. IT'S ALL TO MAKE MONEY...

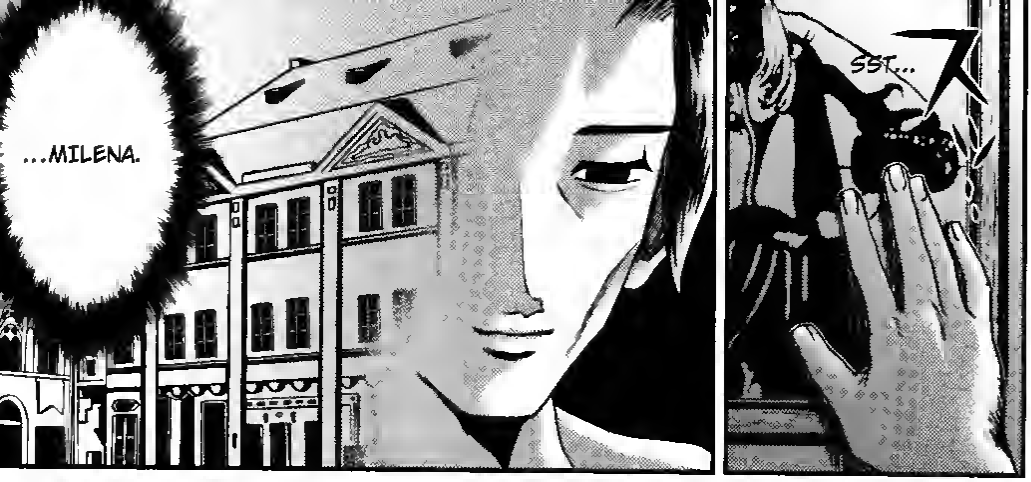

MRRR
SIGH
DO YOU REALLY NEED TO BE WORKING SO HARD...?
BUT I'M WOR-RIED ...

WHO EXACTLY IS GOING TO WORK?!
IF I DON'T WORK...

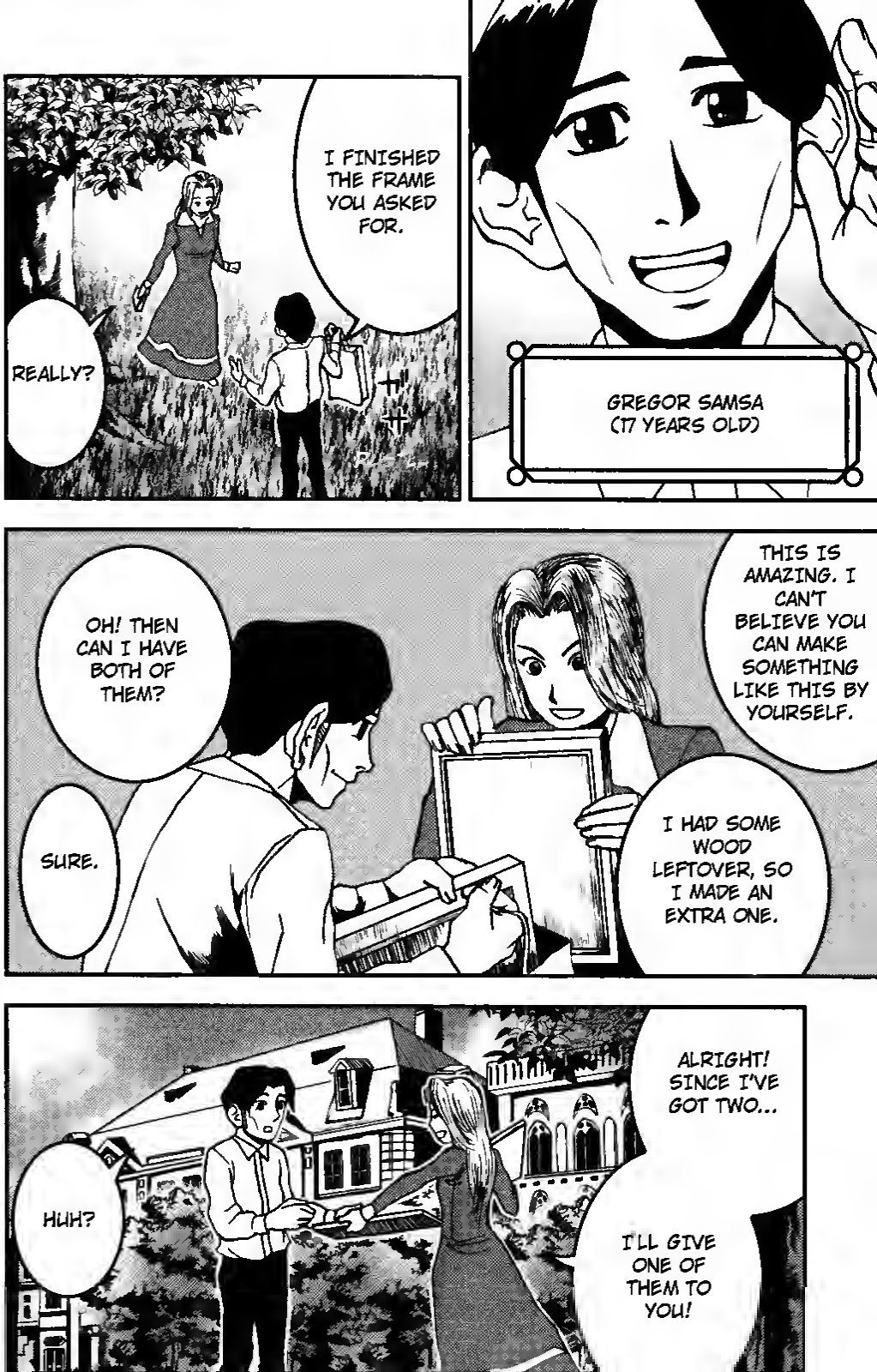



I'M TIRED, SO I'M GOING TO BED...
...

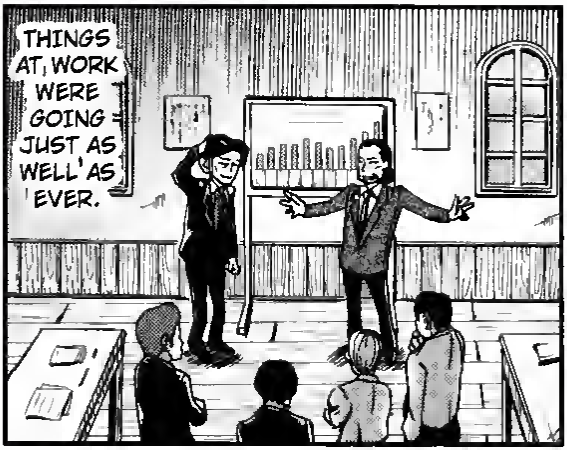

...
SLAM

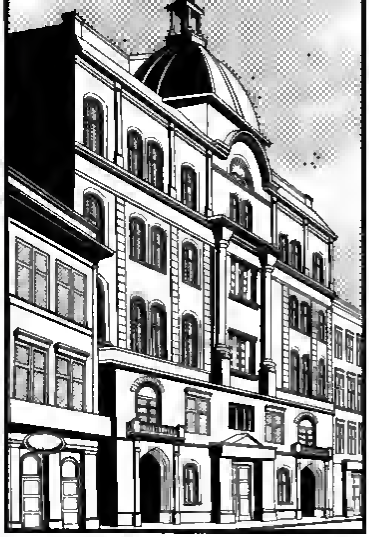

...MILENA.
SST...

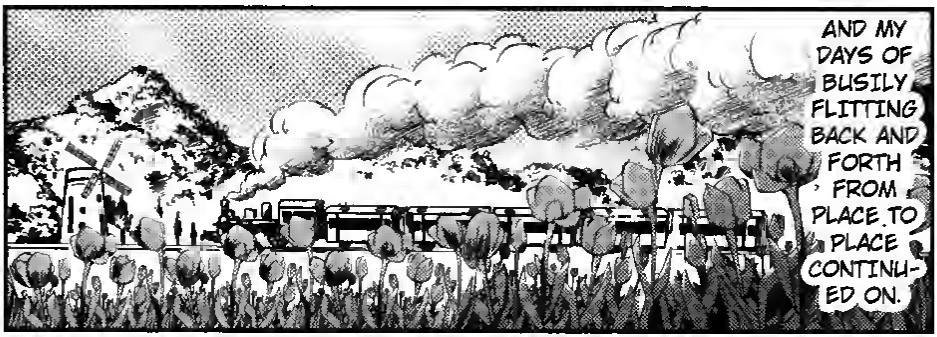
MILENA!
SAMSA!
MILENA JESENSKA
(17 YEARS OLD)

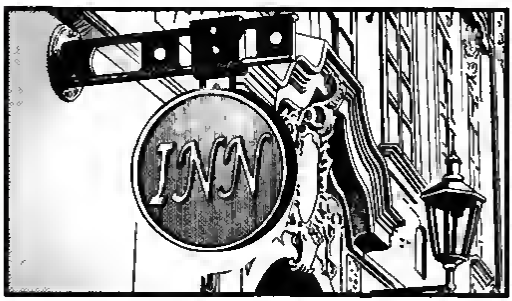

I FINISHED THE FRAME YOU ASKED FOR.
REALLY?
GREGOR SAMSA
(17 YEARS OLD)
THIS IS AMAZING. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CAN MAKE SOMETHING LIKE THIS BY YOURSELF.
I HAD SOME WOOD LEFTOVER, SO I MADE AN EXTRA ONE.
OH! THEN CAN I HAVE BOTH OF THEM?
SURE.
ALRIGHT! SINCE I'VE GOT TWO...
I'LL GIVE ONE OF THEM TO YOU!
HUH?

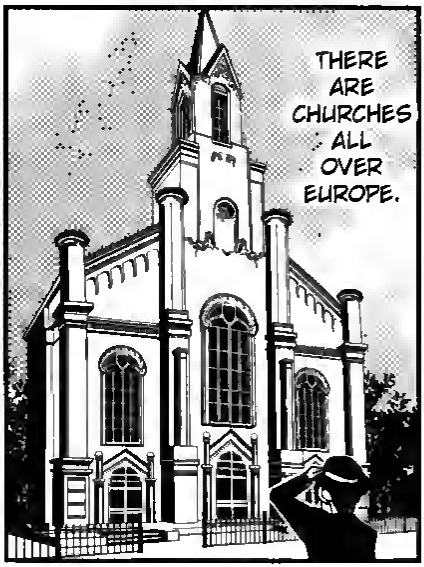
WE'LL EACH HANG A MATCHING FRAME IN OUR ROOMS.
WON'T THAT BE LOVELY?

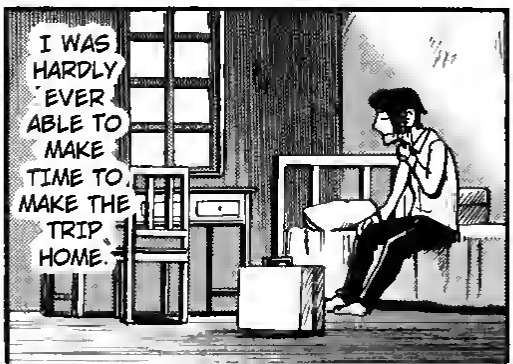

THINGS AT WORK WERE GOING JUST AS WELL AS EVER.

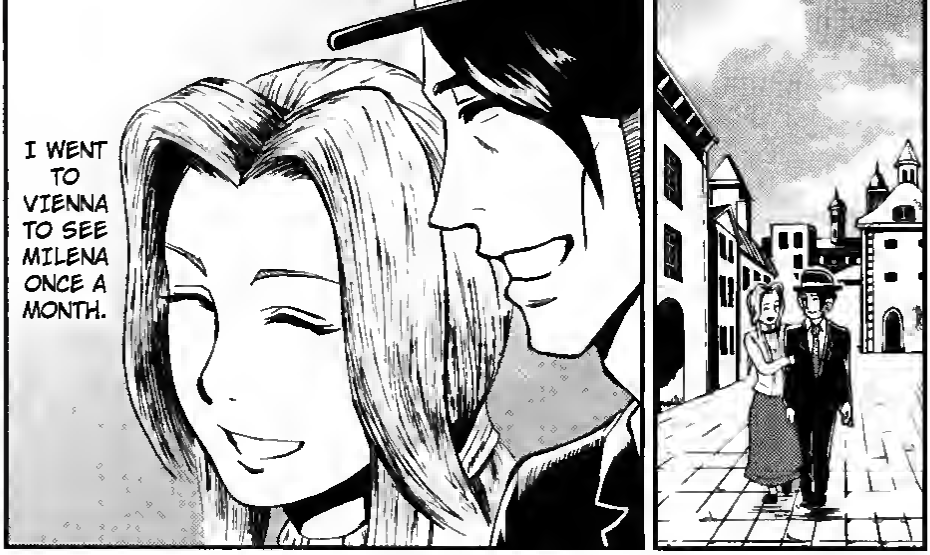


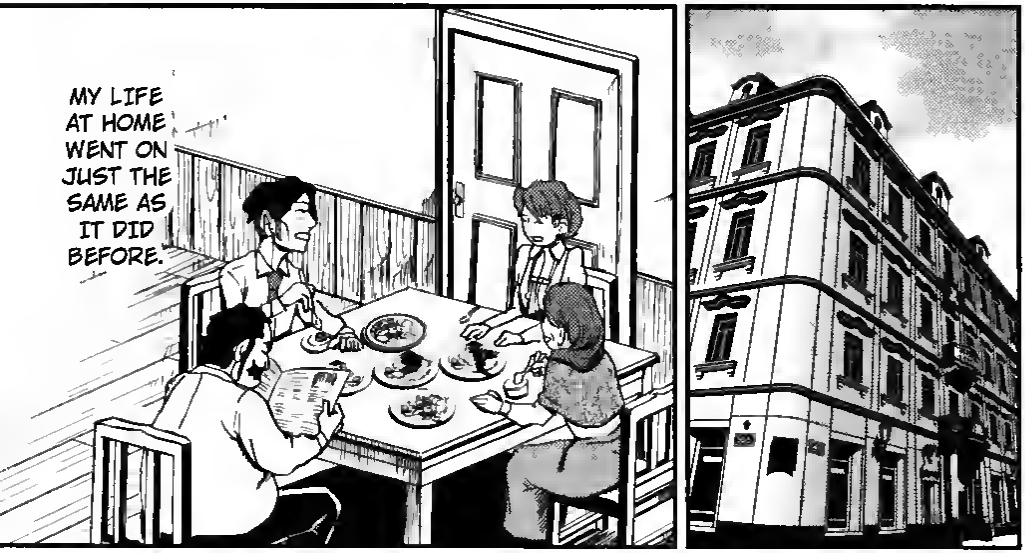

AND MY DAYS OF BUSILY FLITTING BACK AND FORTH, FROM PLACE TO PLACE CONTINUED ON.

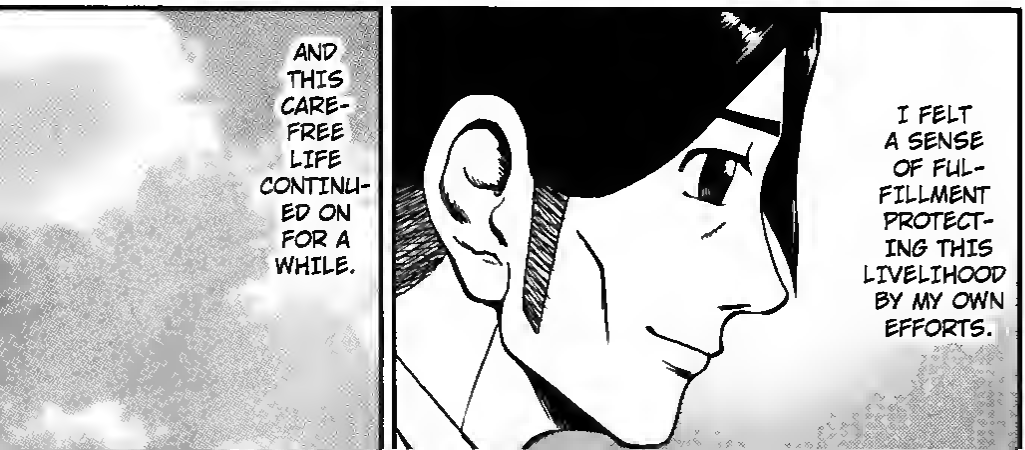

INN

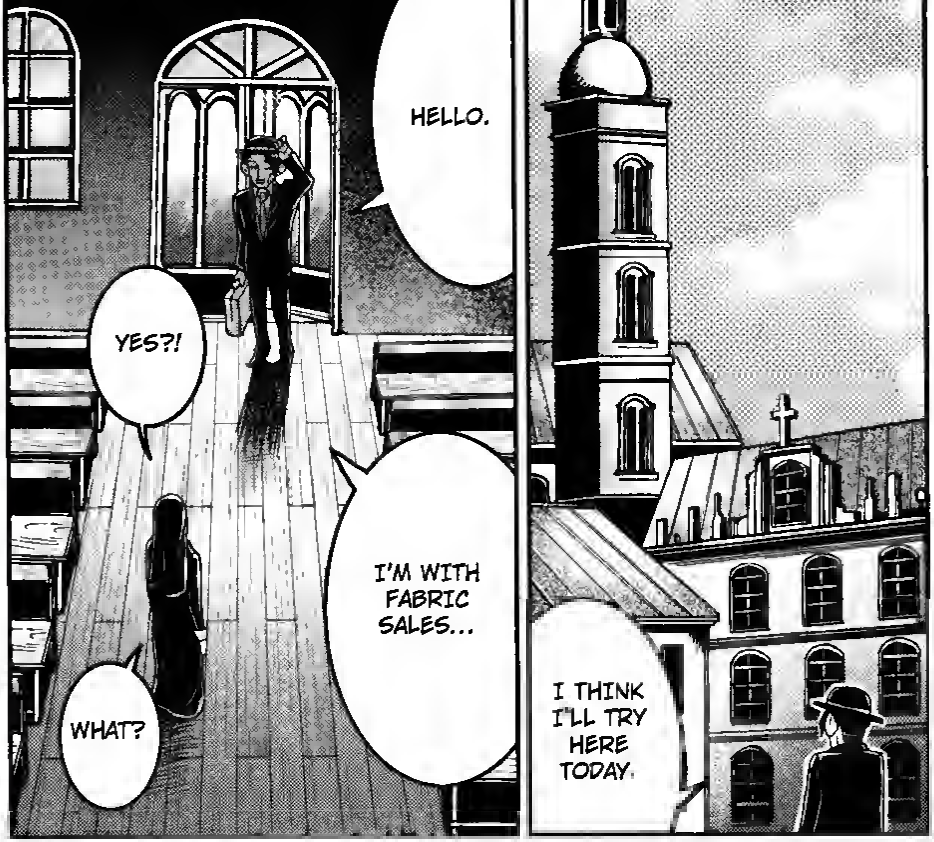

THERE ARE CHURCHES ALL OVER EUROPE.


I WAS HARDLY EVER ABLE TO MAKE TIME TO MAKE THE TRIP HOME.


I WENT TO VIENNA TO SEE MILENA ONCE A MONTH.

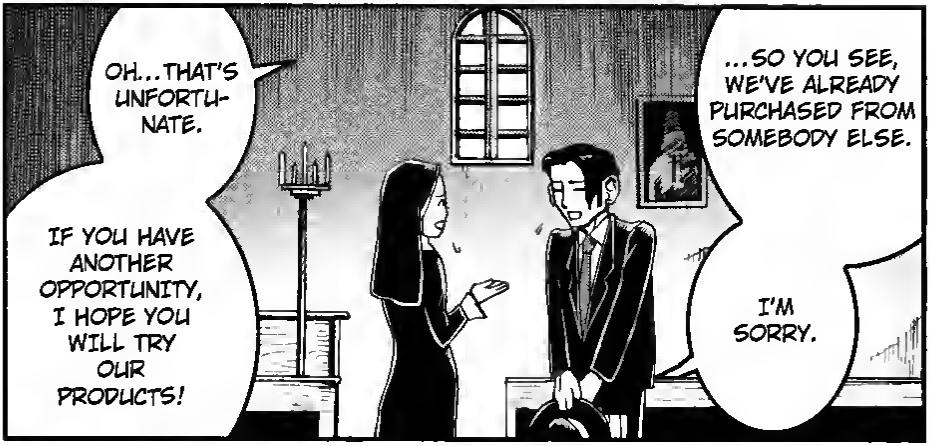

MY LIFE AT HOME WENT ON JUST THE SAME AS IT DID BEFORE.

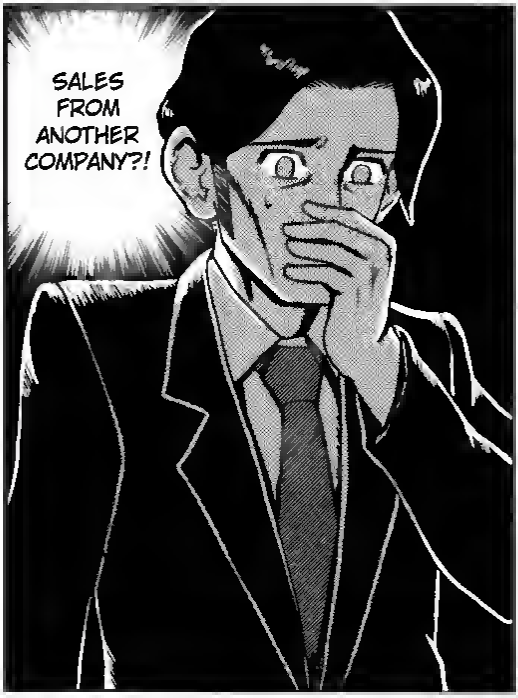

AND THIS CARE-FREE LIFE CONTINU-ED ON FOR A WHILE.
I FELT A SENSE OF FUL-FILLMENT PROTECT-ING THIS LIVELIHOOD BY MY OWN EFFORTS.


HELLO.
YES?!
I'M WITH FABRIC SALES...
WHAT?
I THINK I'LL TRY HERE TODAY.

N...NO, THIS IS MY FIRST TIME HERE...
OH, THAT WAS SOMEBODY ELSE. I'M SORRY.

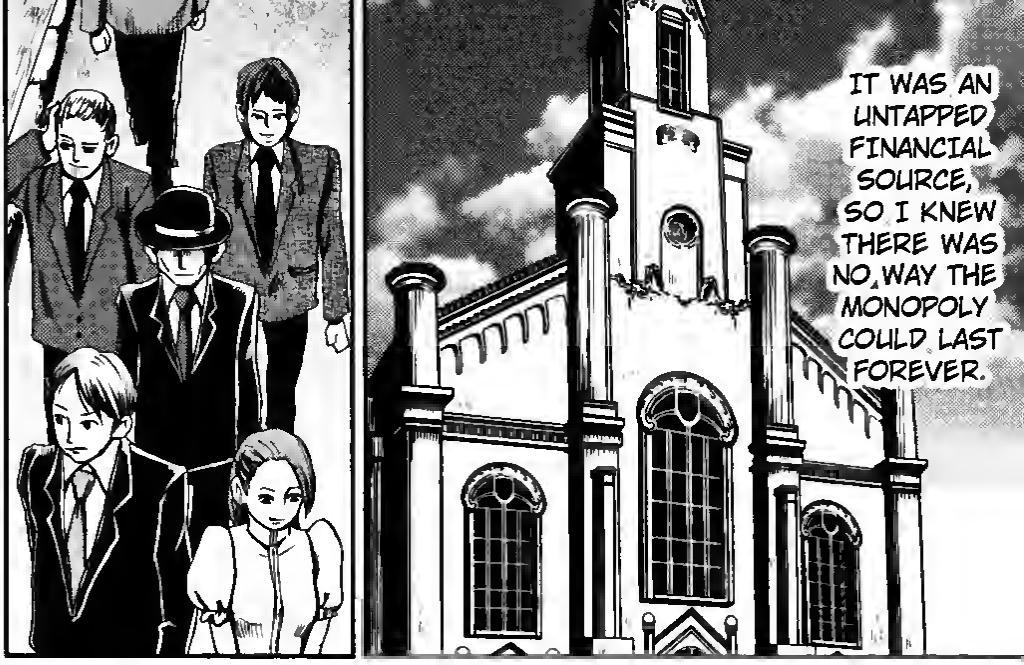
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO WAS HERE THE OTHER DAY?
!

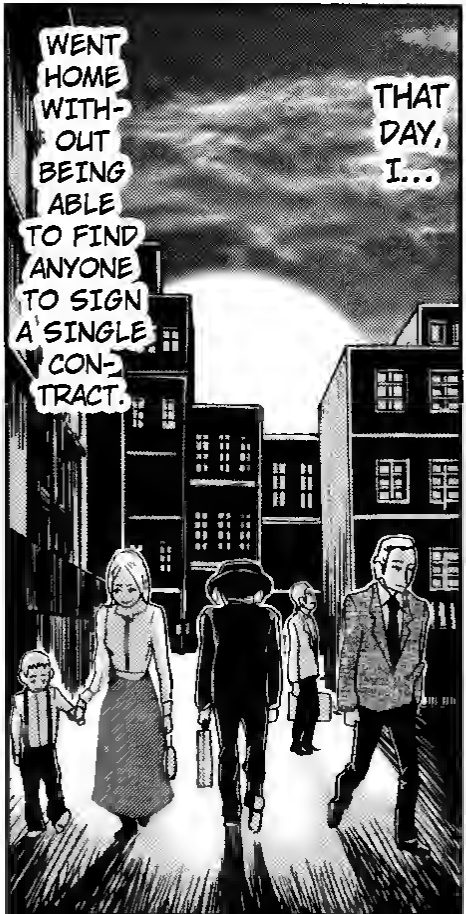

OH...THAT'S UNFORTU-NATE.
IF YOU HAVE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY, I HOPE YOU WILL TRY OUR PRODUCTS!
...SO YOU SEE, WE'VE ALREADY PURCHASED FROM SOMEBODY ELSE.
I'M SORRY.

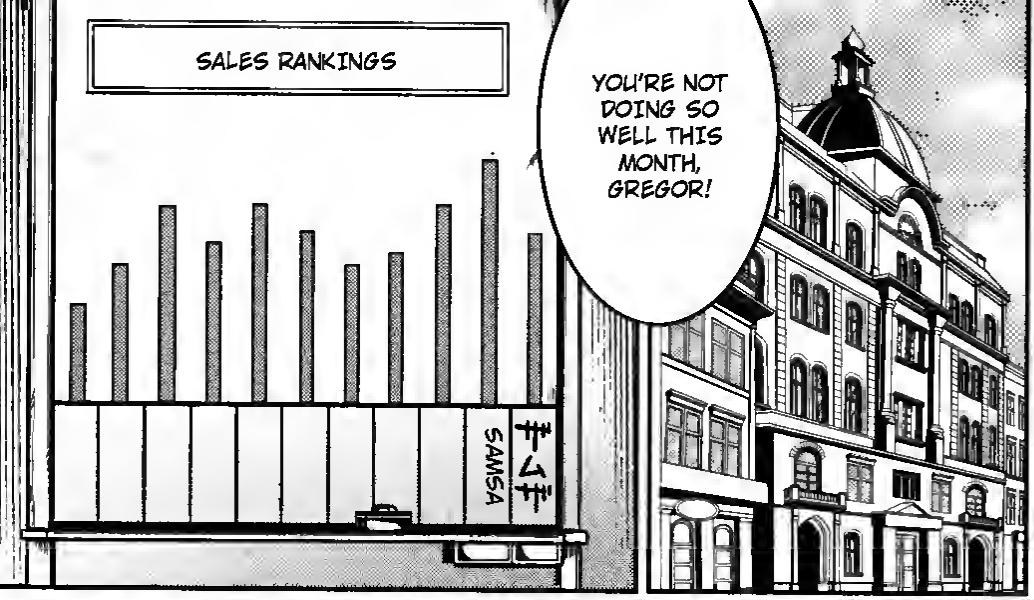

SALES FROM ANOTHER COMPANY?!

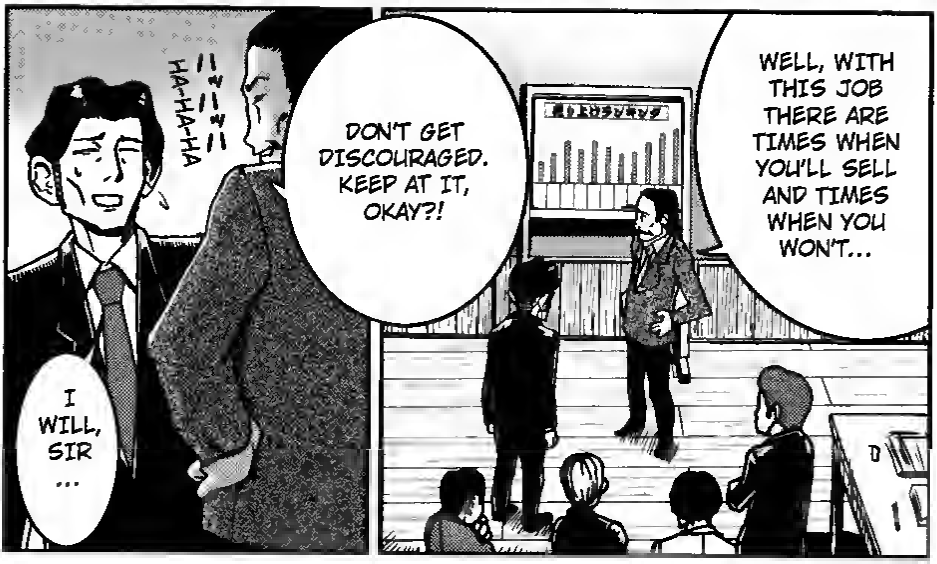
...!

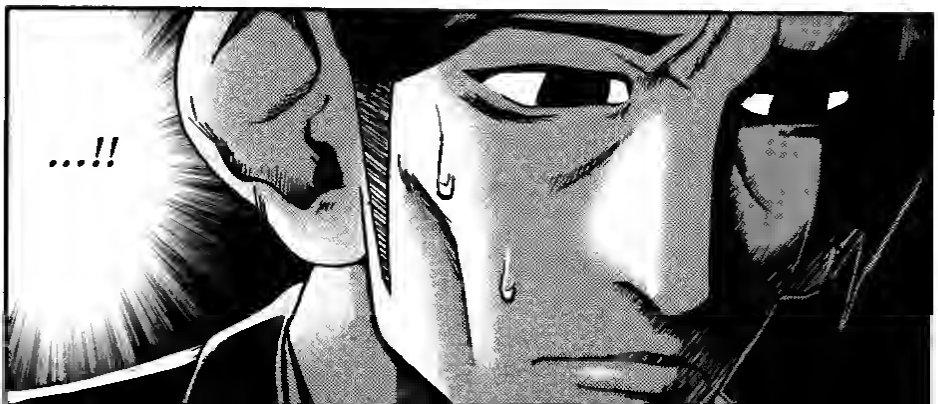
DAMN ...!
AND YET I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN...!
I WASN'T AT ALL PREPARED FOR THIS!


IT WAS AN UNTAPPED FINANCIAL SOURCE, SO I KNEW THERE WAS NO WAY THE MONOPOLY COULD LAST FOREVER.

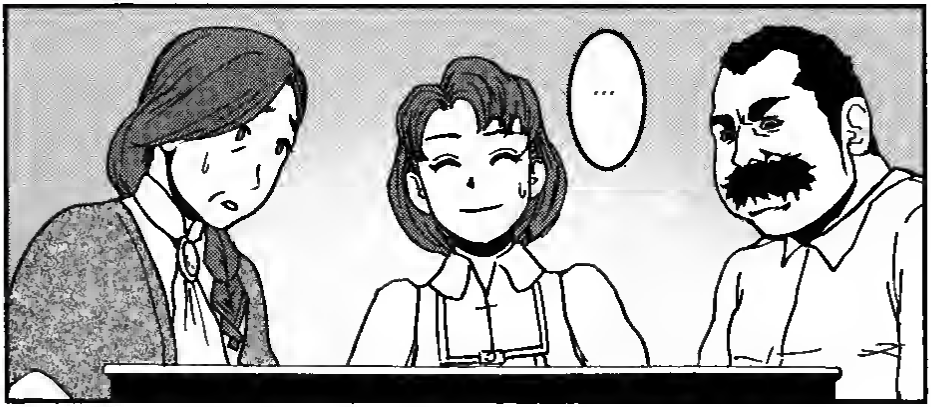

WENT HOME WITH-OUT BEING ABLE TO FIND ANYONE TO SIGN A SINGLE CON-TRACT.
THAT DAY, I...

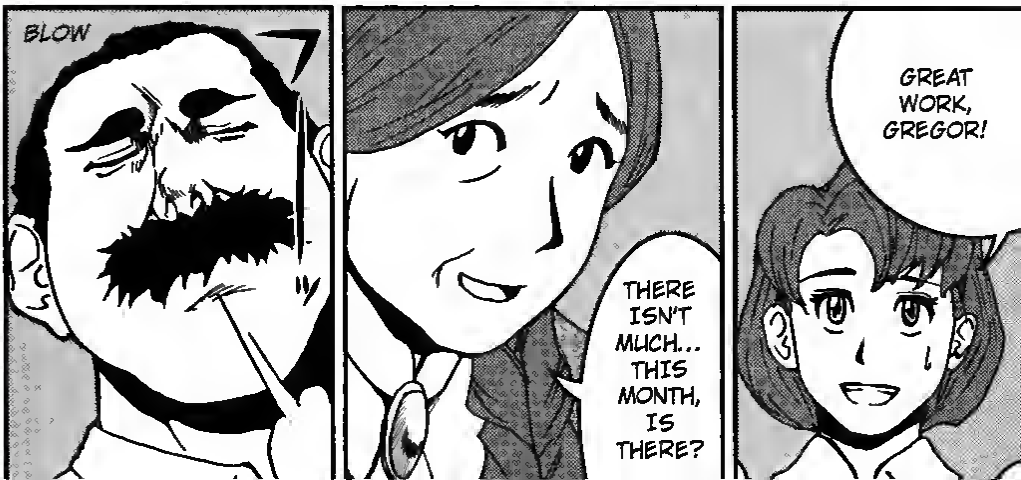

SALES RANKINGS
YOU'RE NOT DOING SO WELL THIS MONTH, GREGOR!
SAMSA

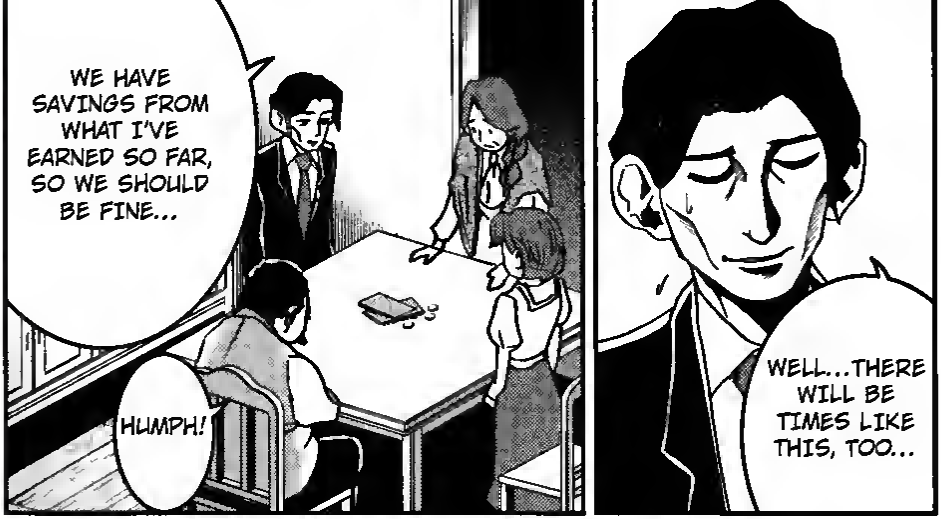

HA-HA-HA
DON'T GET DISCOURAGED. KEEP AT IT, OKAY?!
I WILL, SIR ...
WELL, WITH THIS JOB THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU'LL SELL AND TIMES WHEN YOU WON'T...


...!!

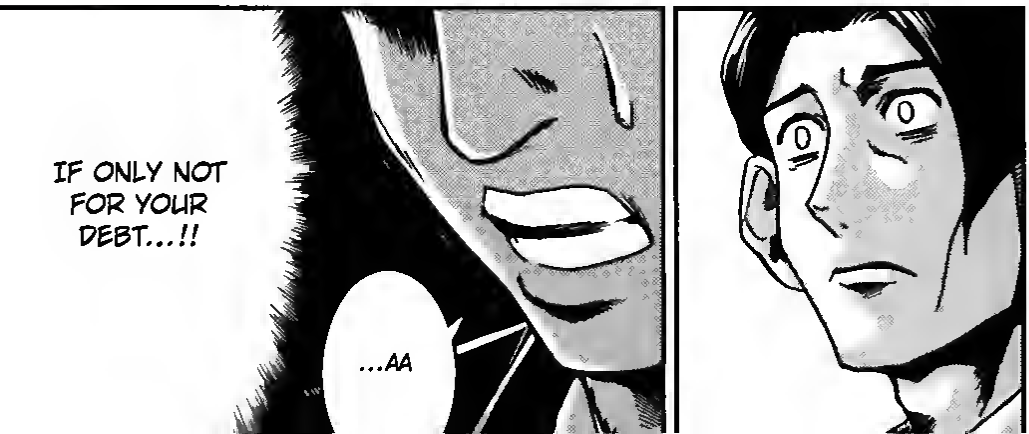
ちょこん
PLUNK
HERE'S MY SALARY FOR THE MONTH...

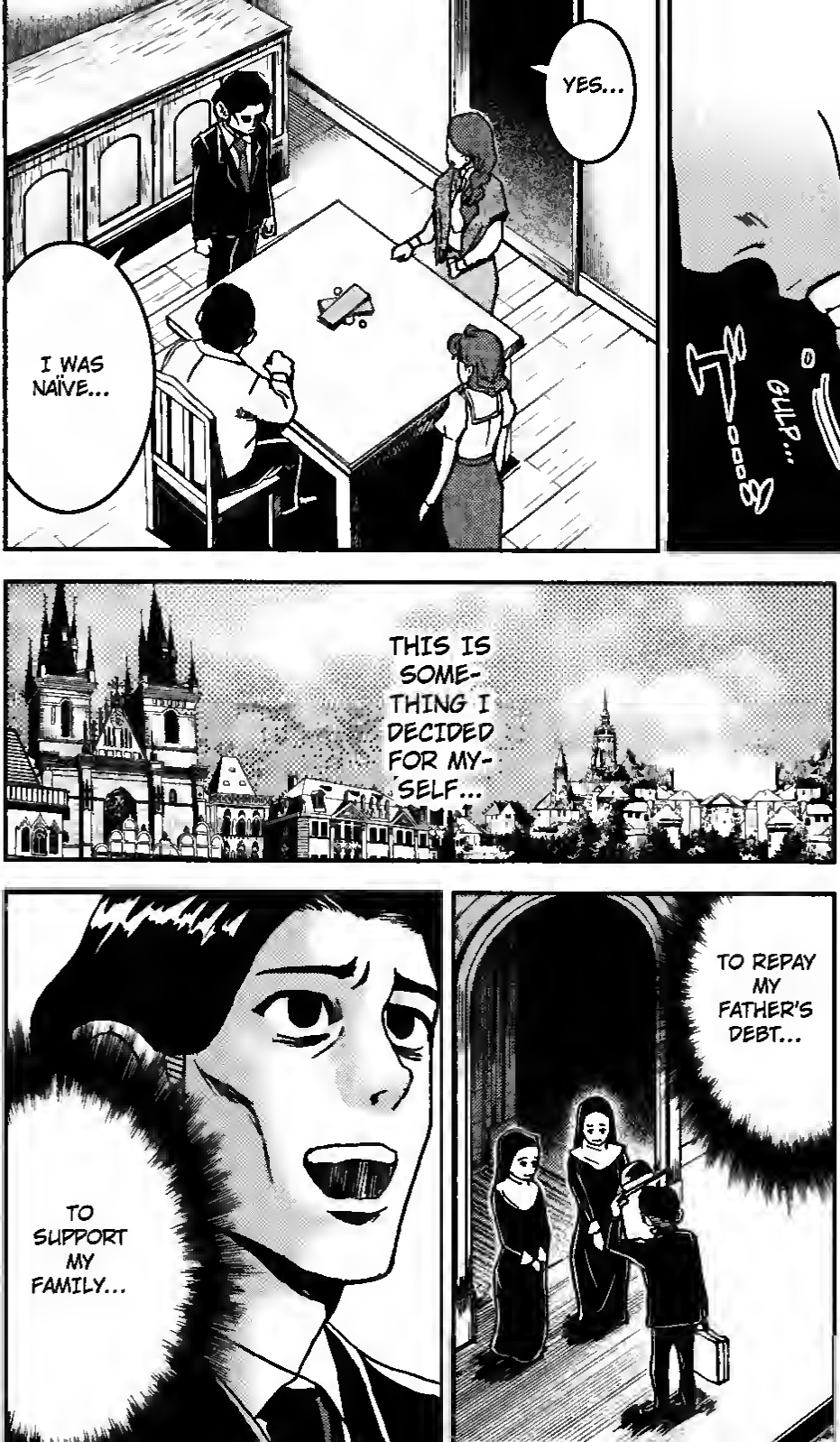

...


BLOW
THERE ISN'T MUCH... THIS MONTH, IS THERE?
GREAT WORK, GREGOR!


WE HAVE SAVINGS FROM WHAT I'VE EARNED SO FAR, SO WE SHOULD BE FINE...
HUMPH!
WELL...THERE WILL BE TIMES LIKE THIS, TOO...

IT TURNED OUT JUST LIKE I *THOUGHT* IT WOULD!
BUSINESS IS *NOT* THAT EASY!

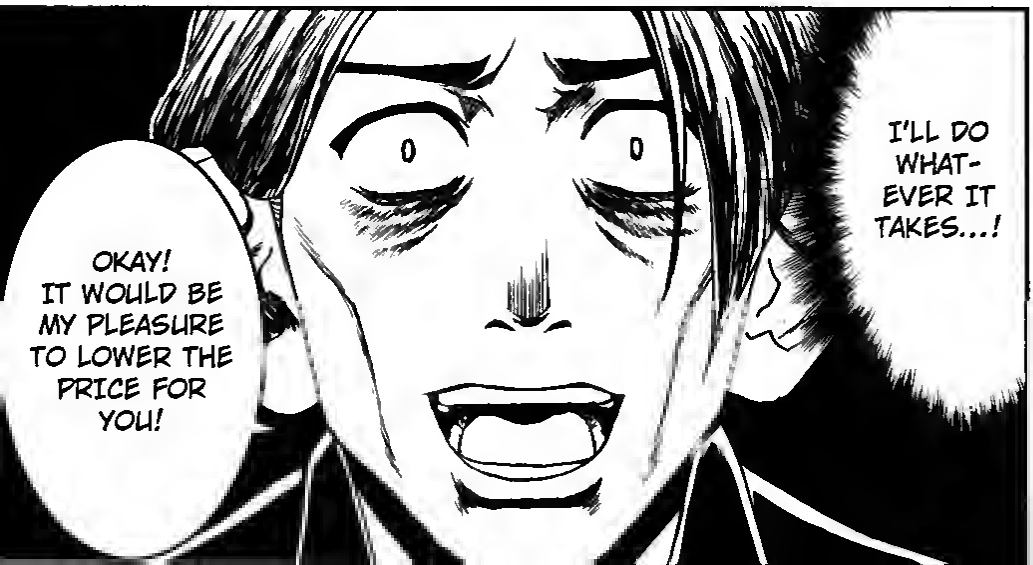

IF ONLY NOT FOR YOUR DEBT...!!
...AA

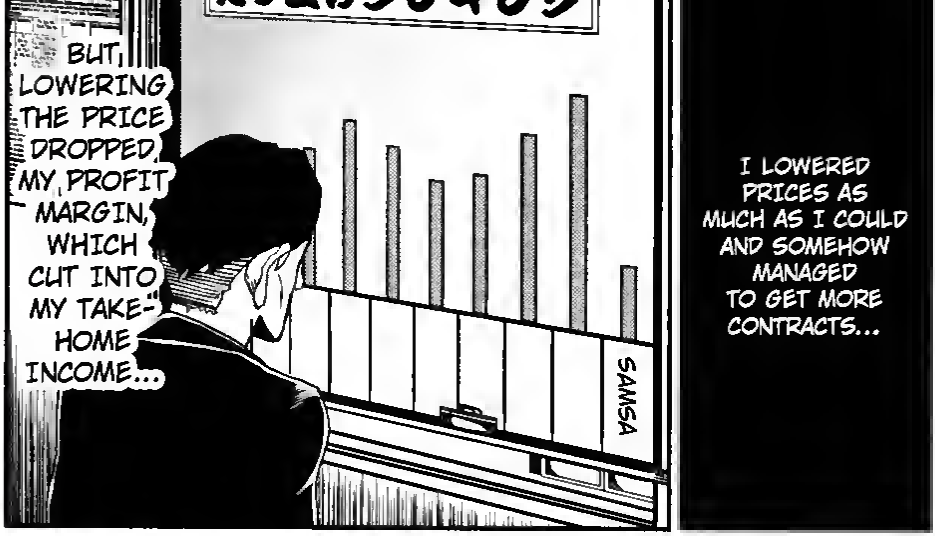

YES...
I WAS NAÏVE...
GULP...
THIS IS SOME-THING I DECIDED FOR MY-SELF...
TO SUPPORT MY FAMILY...
TO REPAY MY FATHER'S DEBT...

I WILL VISIT AS MANY PLACES AS I CAN...
AND GET AS MANY CONTRACTS AS I CAN!

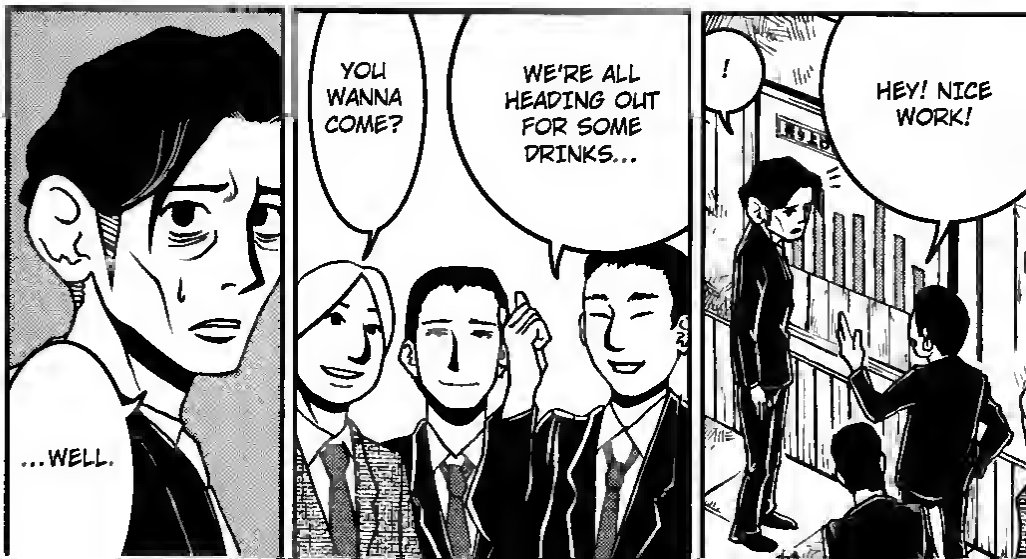
I MUST GET CONTRACTS ...
WELL...I CAN THINK ABOUT IT IF YOU GIVE ME A BETTER PRICE...

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE PICKY ABOUT CLIENTS.
I WOULDN'T EVEN MIND A SMALL ACCOUNT.

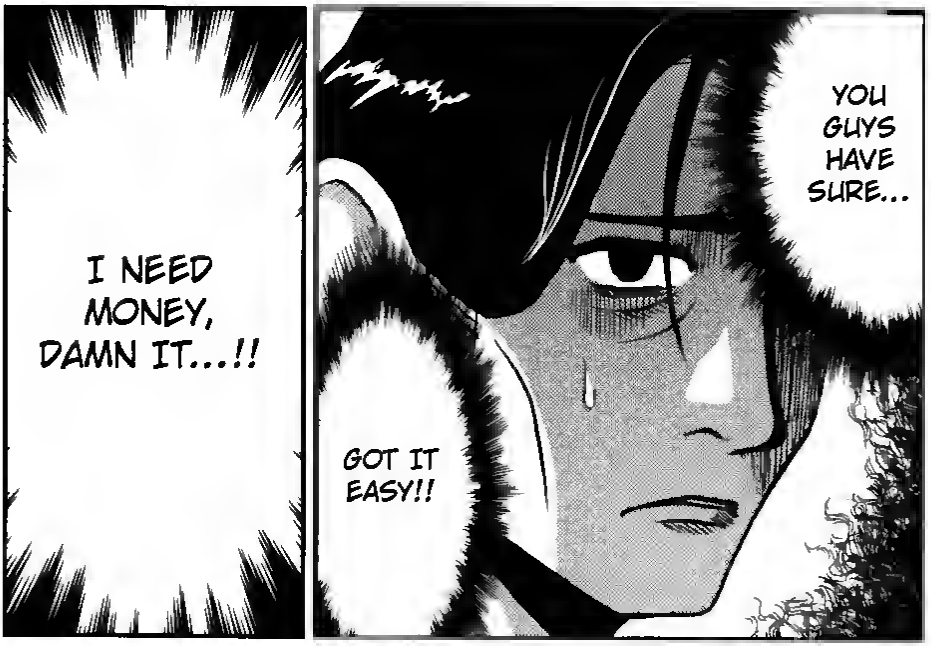

I'LL DO WHAT-EVER IT TAKES...!
OKAY! IT WOULD BE MY PLEASURE TO LOWER THE PRICE FOR YOU!

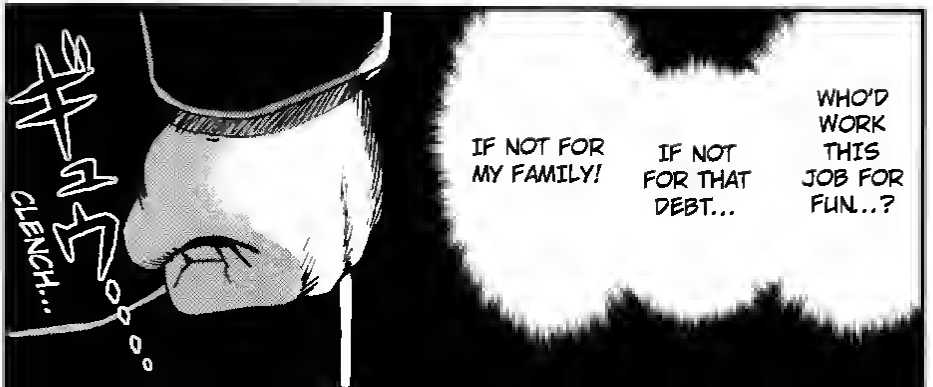

I LOWERED PRICES AS MUCH AS I COULD AND SOMEHOW MANAGED TO GET MORE CONTRACTS...
BUT, LOWERING THE PRICE DROPPED MY PROFIT MARGIN, WHICH CUT INTO MY TAKE-HOME INCOME...
SAMSA

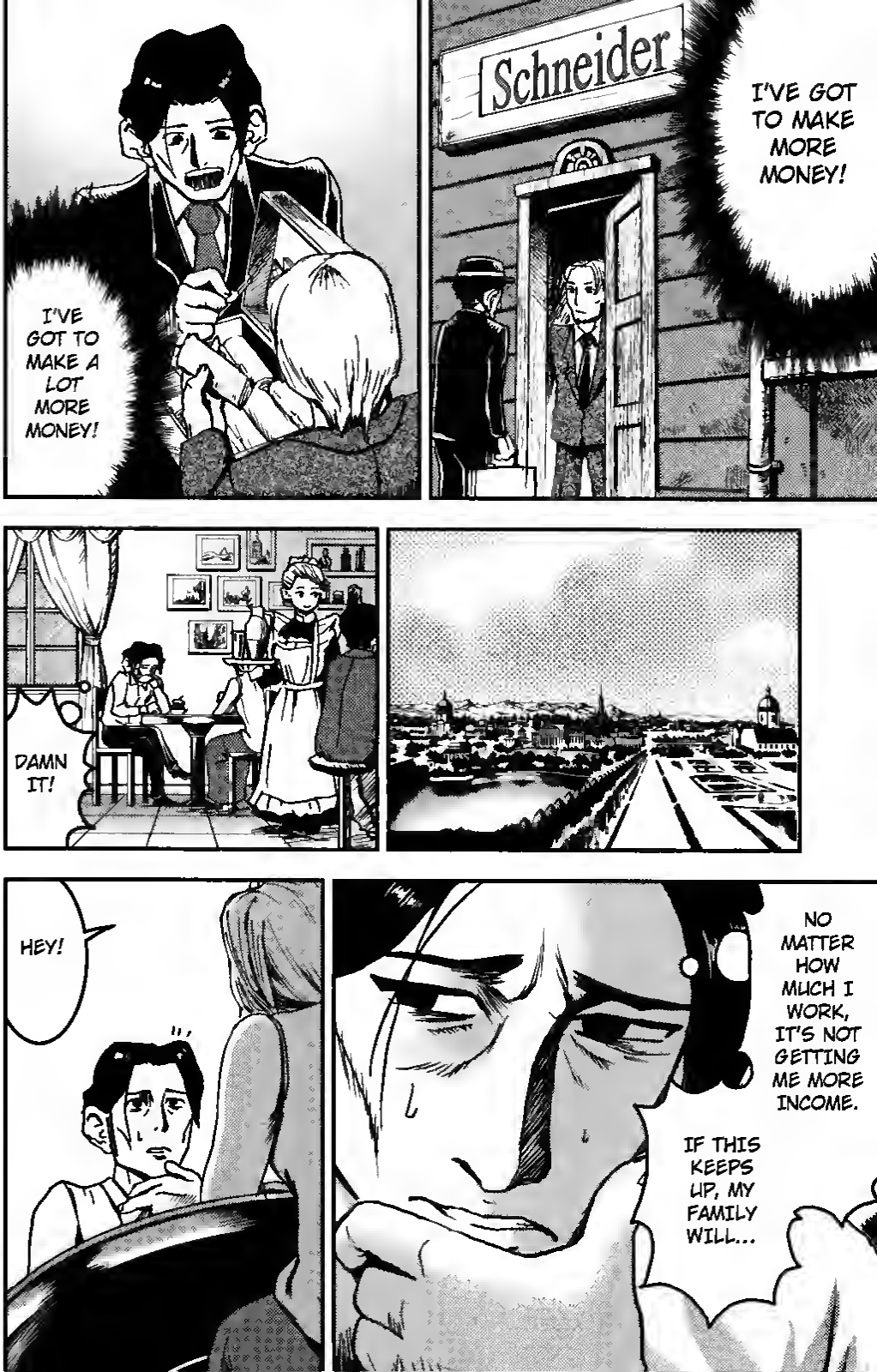
...
THIS IS BAD...!


HEY! NICE WORK!
!
WE'RE ALL HEADING OUT FOR SOME DRINKS...
YOU WANNA COME?
...WELL.

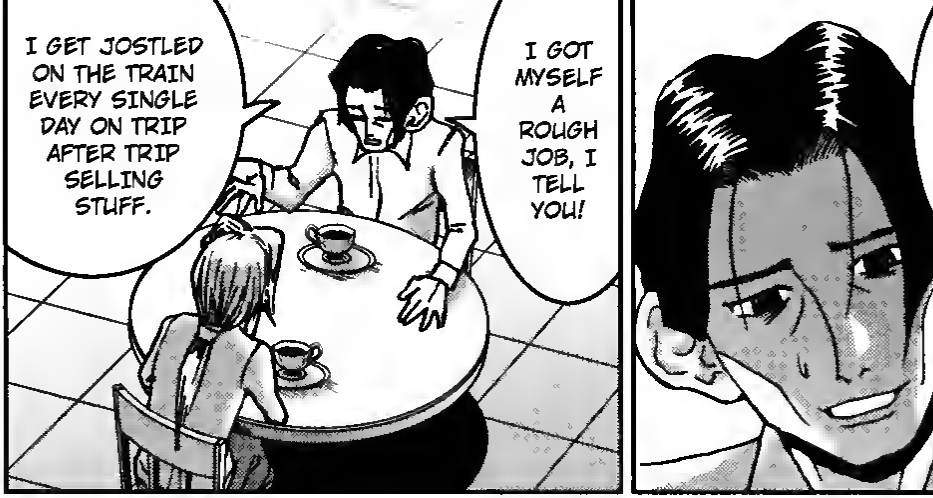
TOO MUCH, I TELL YOU.
HE SURE WORKS A LOT.
WELL, DON'T WORK TOO HARD.
HM? REALLY? THAT'S TOO BAD.
I'VE GOT AN EARLY DAY TOMORROW, TOO... SORRY, I CAN'T.

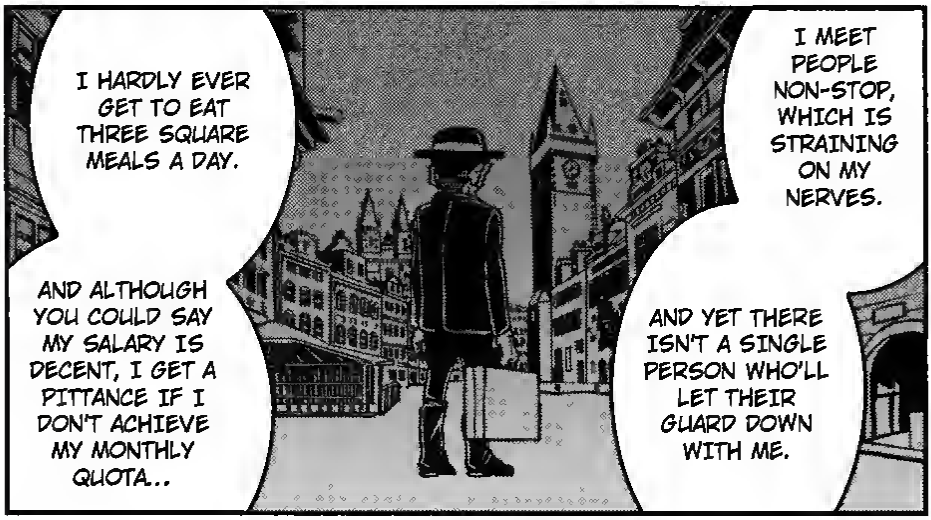

I NEED MONEY, DAMN IT...!!
YOU GUYS HAVE SURE...
GOT IT EASY!!

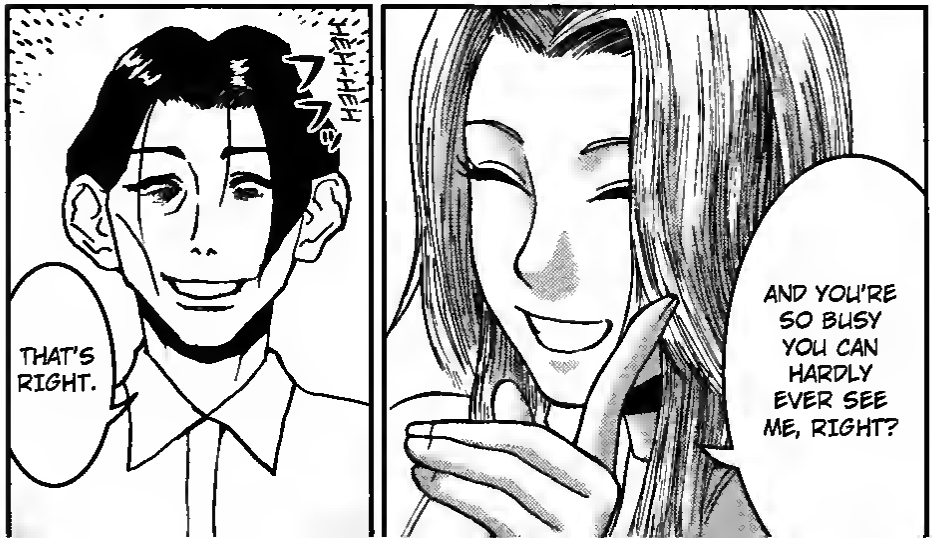

CLENCH...
IF NOT FOR MY FAMILY!
IF NOT FOR THAT DEBT...
WHO'D WORK THIS JOB FOR FUN...?

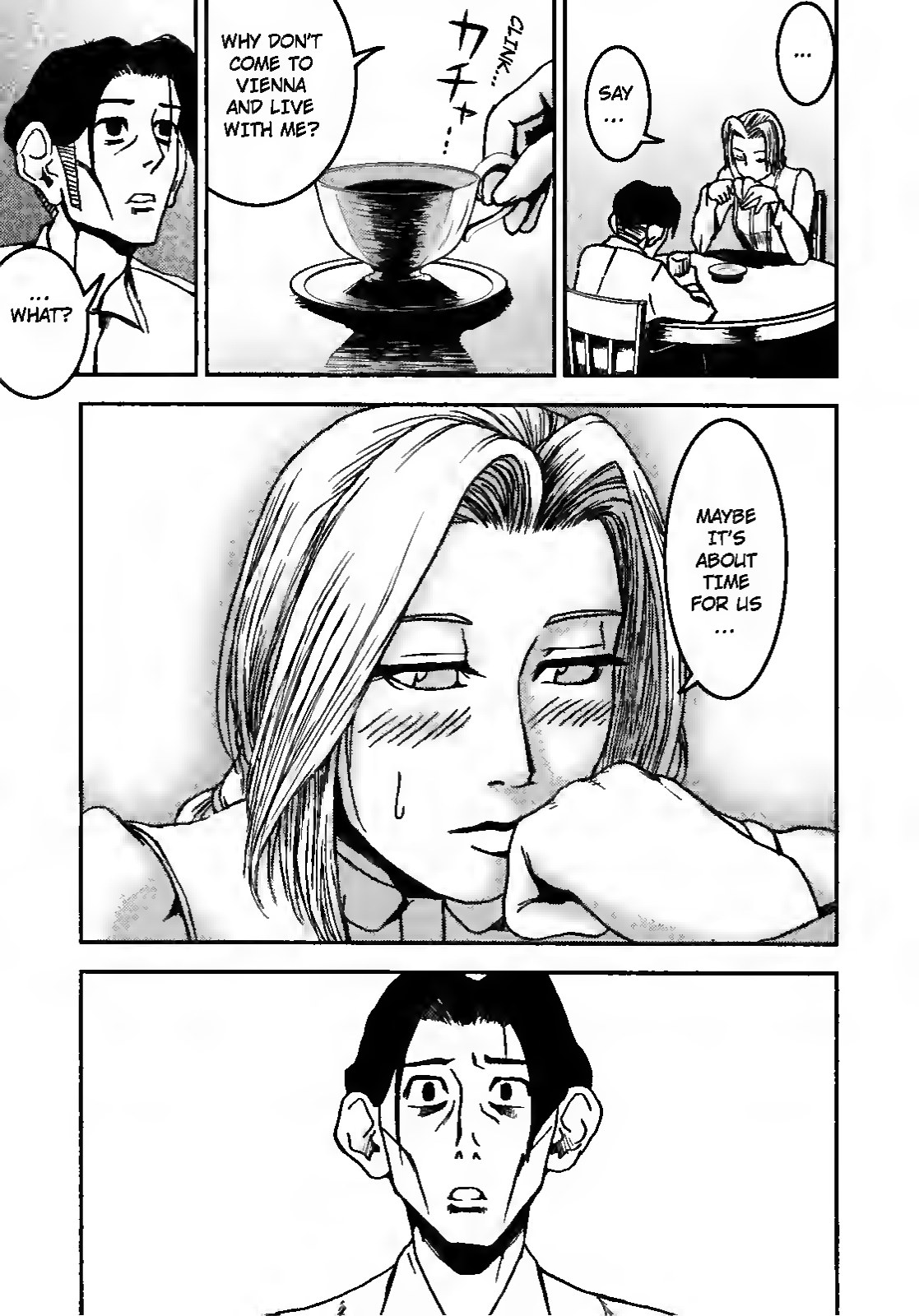

I'VE GOT TO MAKE A LOT MORE MONEY!
Schneider
I'VE GOT TO MAKE MORE MONEY!
DAMN IT!
HEY!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I WORK, IT'S NOT GETTING ME MORE INCOME.
IF THIS KEEPS UP, MY FAMILY WILL...

OH, SORRY.
DOHHHH
YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT WORK AGAIN, WEREN'T YOU?
WE CAN ONLY SEE EACH OTHER ONCE IN A WHILE, SO.
... RIGHT.
I KNOW WORK'S IMPORTANT... BUT IT'D BE NICE IF YOU'D TREAT ME LIKE I'M IMPORTANT, TOO.
YOU DON'T LOOK SO WELL.
YOU'VE BEEN PUSHING YOURSELF HARD LATELY, HAVEN'T YOU?
...
じっ
STARE

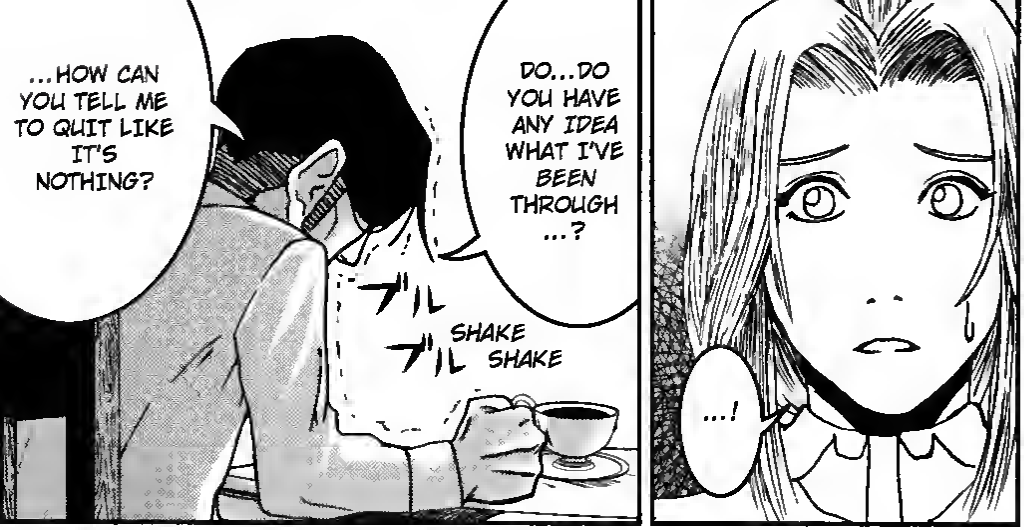

I GET JOSTLED ON THE TRAIN EVERY SINGLE DAY ON TRIP AFTER TRIP SELLING STUFF.
I GOT MYSELF A ROUGH JOB, I TELL YOU!
MM... KIND OF.

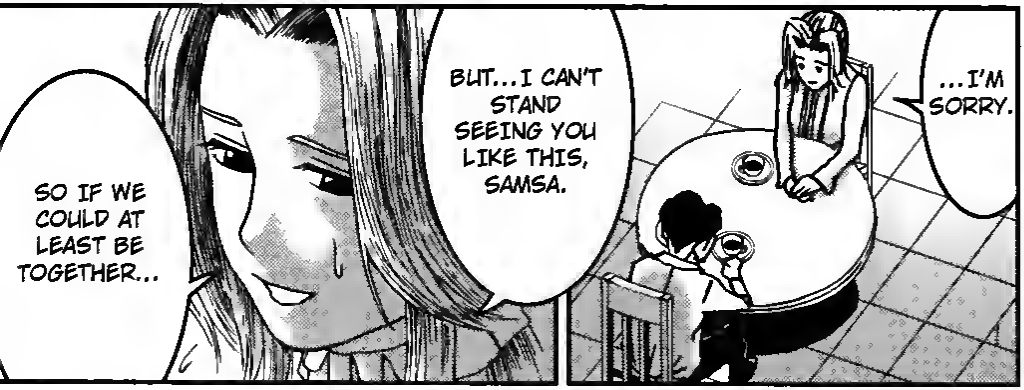

I HARDLY EVER GET TO EAT THREE SQUARE MEALS A DAY.
AND ALTHOUGH YOU COULD SAY MY SALARY IS DECENT, I GET A PITTANCE IF I DON'T ACHIEVE MY MONTHLY QUOTA...
I MEET PEOPLE NON-STOP, WHICH IS STRAINING ON MY NERVES.
AND YET THERE ISN'T A SINGLE PERSON WHO'LL LET THEIR GUARD DOWN WITH ME.


フフッ
THAT'S RIGHT.
AND YOU'RE SO BUSY YOU CAN HARDLY EVER SEE ME, RIGHT?

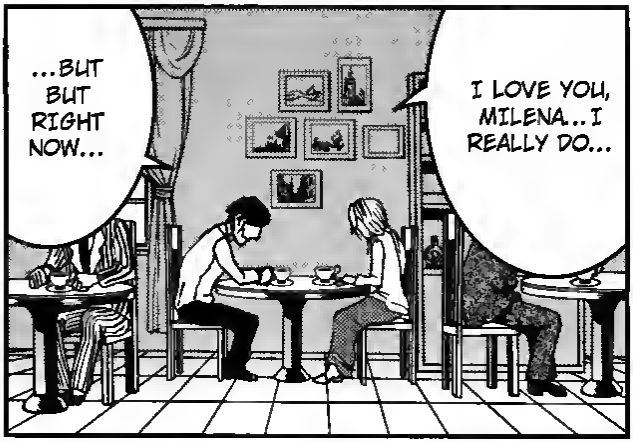

...
SAY ...
CLINK...
カチャ...
WHY DON'T COME TO VIENNA AND LIVE WITH ME?
... WHAT?
MAYBE IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR US ...

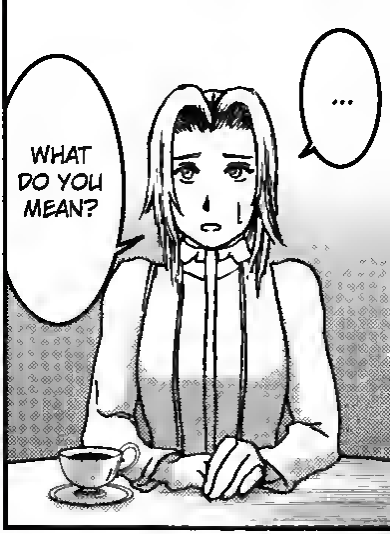
AND IT SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM HAVING YOUR FAMILY LIVE WITH US.
BUSINESS IS PRETTY GOOD.
HELP ME OUT AT THE INN.
...HUH?
...WHA.
OKAY? YOU COULD QUIT THAT JOB OF YOURS...
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?

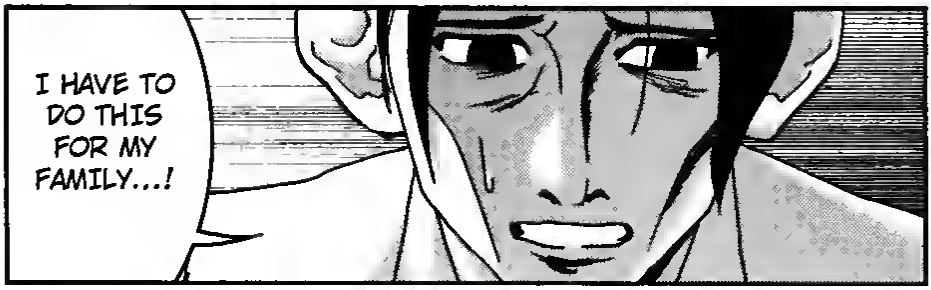

...HOW CAN YOU TELL ME TO QUIT LIKE IT'S NOTHING?
DO...DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT I'VE BEEN THROUGH ...?
ブル ブル
SHAKE SHAKE
...!

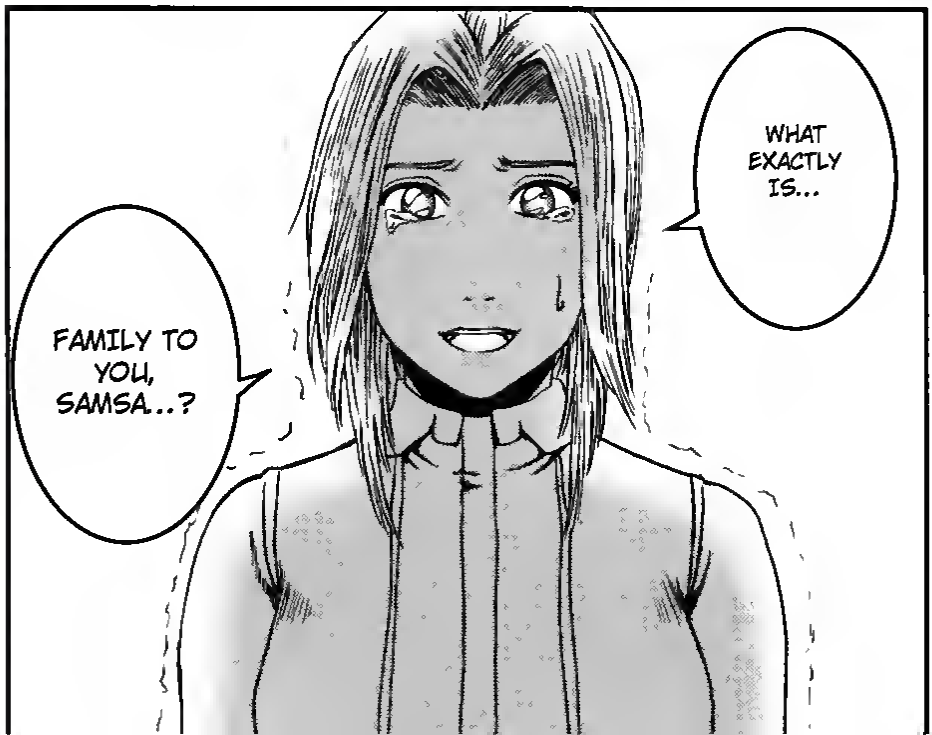

SO IF WE COULD AT LEAST BE TOGETHER...
BUT...I CAN'T STAND SEEING YOU LIKE THIS, SAMSA.
...I'M SORRY.

...MARRIAGE ON TOP OF THAT'D BE TOO MUCH...
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE...
IT'S ALL I CAN DO JUST TO TAKE CARE OF MY FAMILY...

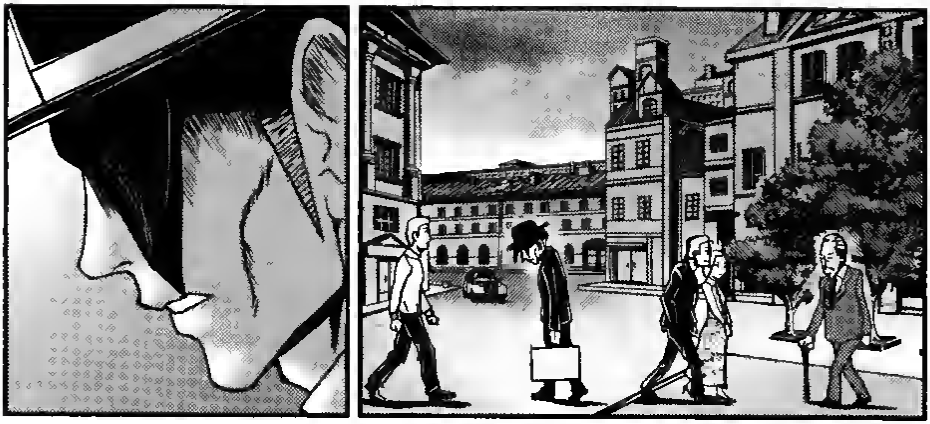

I LOVE YOU, MILENA...I REALLY DO...
...BUT BUT RIGHT NOW...

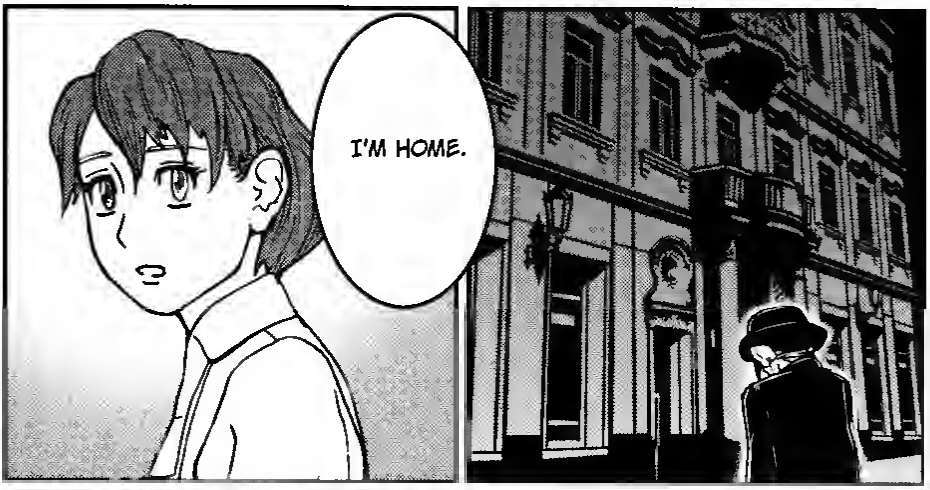

...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


I HAVE TO DO THIS FOR MY FAMILY...!


WHAT EXACTLY IS...
FAMILY TO YOU, SAMSA...?

!
ガタ
CLATTER
MILENA!




I'M HOME.

ARE YOU TIRED?
YOU LOOK TERRIBLE.

GREGOR...

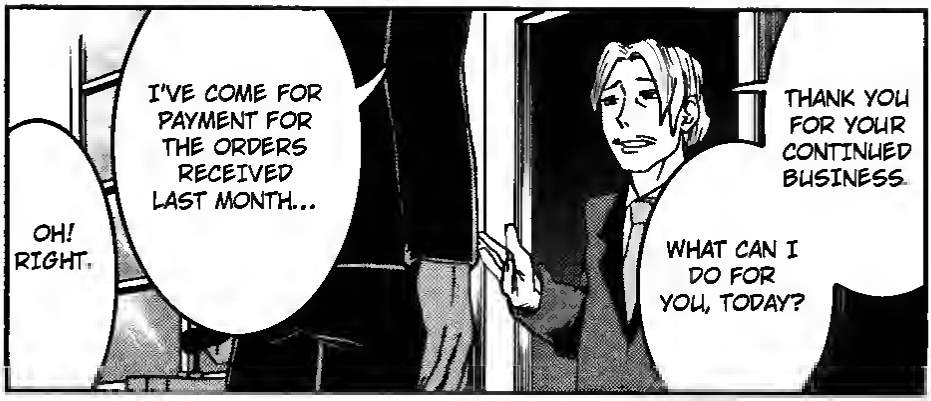
ARE YOU OKAY?
ビク
FLINCH
...!

EVERYTHING'S FINE...YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING...
REST EASY...AND LEAVE THINGS TO ME.

?!
FWIP
GREGOR ...?
Y...YOU'RE HURTING ME, GREGOR...
SQUEEZE
I'LL... PROTECT EVERYONE...!!
I MUST...
PROTECT ALL OF YOU!!

THIS WONDER-FUL HOME...!
GRETE'S FUTURE ...!
THE SUMP-TUOUS FOOD AT THE TABLE...!
I MUST PROTECT THIS LIVELIHOOD FOR EVERYONE...!!

Boutique Shop
I'VE GOT TO DO SOME-THING!
I'VE GOT TO...
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SURVIVE IF THIS KEEPS UP...


I'VE COME FOR PAYMENT FOR THE ORDERS RECEIVED LAST MONTH...
OH! RIGHT.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED BUSINESS.
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, TODAY?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

WE'VE ARRIVED IN AMERICA.
CONTACT THE ENGINE ROOM.
ゴー BURN
ゴー BURN
FWOOO
IT'S SO HOT...
ゴオオオオ BURN
ハア ハア HUFF-HUFF

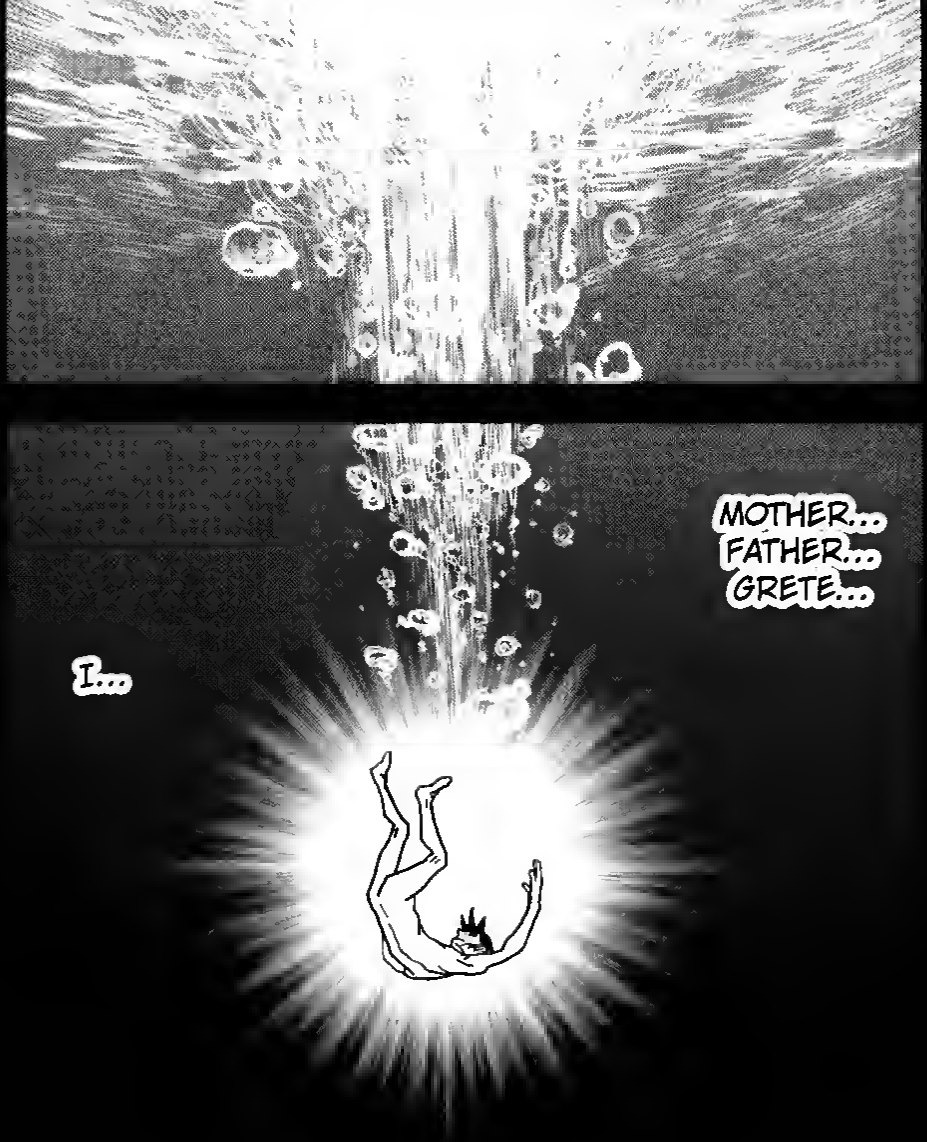
奇妙な悪夢
THE CURIOUS NIGHTMARE
OOOOSH
TOOOOOOOT
ボーーーッ

WATER. I HAVE TO HAVE WATER OR I'LL DIE...
HUFF
HUFF
I'M SO THIRSTY... I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THIS...
BURN
!
CHIEF ENGI-NEER, SIR...
I'M ABOUT TO PASS OUT... I'LL BE BACK RIGHT AWAY.
...
MAY I GO GET A DRINK OF WATER?

NO, YOU MAY NOT!
THE BREAK TIMES HAVE ALREADY BEEN SET!
BESIDES, WE'RE ABOUT TO DOCK! DO NOT LEAVE YOUR POST.
...!
COME ON...! I CAN'T EVEN HAVE JUST ONE DRINK OF WATER?
IT'D ONLY TAKE A COUPLE OF MINUTES!
QUIT YOUR HARPING
YOU'RE GETTING PAID FOR THIS, SO DO AS YOU'RE TOLD!
I THINK I'VE BEEN WORKING HARD ENOUGH TO EARN MY PAY!
THAT'S NOT FOR YOU TO DETERMINE!!

...
HAVE ONE DRINK OF WATER?!
YOU WON'T EVEN LET ME...
FINE... IF YOU WANT A DRINK THAT BADLY...
HELP YOURSELF TO SOME SEA WATER...
AND THEN DROWN IN IT.

TOOOOOT



I HAVE NEVER ONCE
FORGOTTEN MY LOVE
FOR ALL OF YOU...

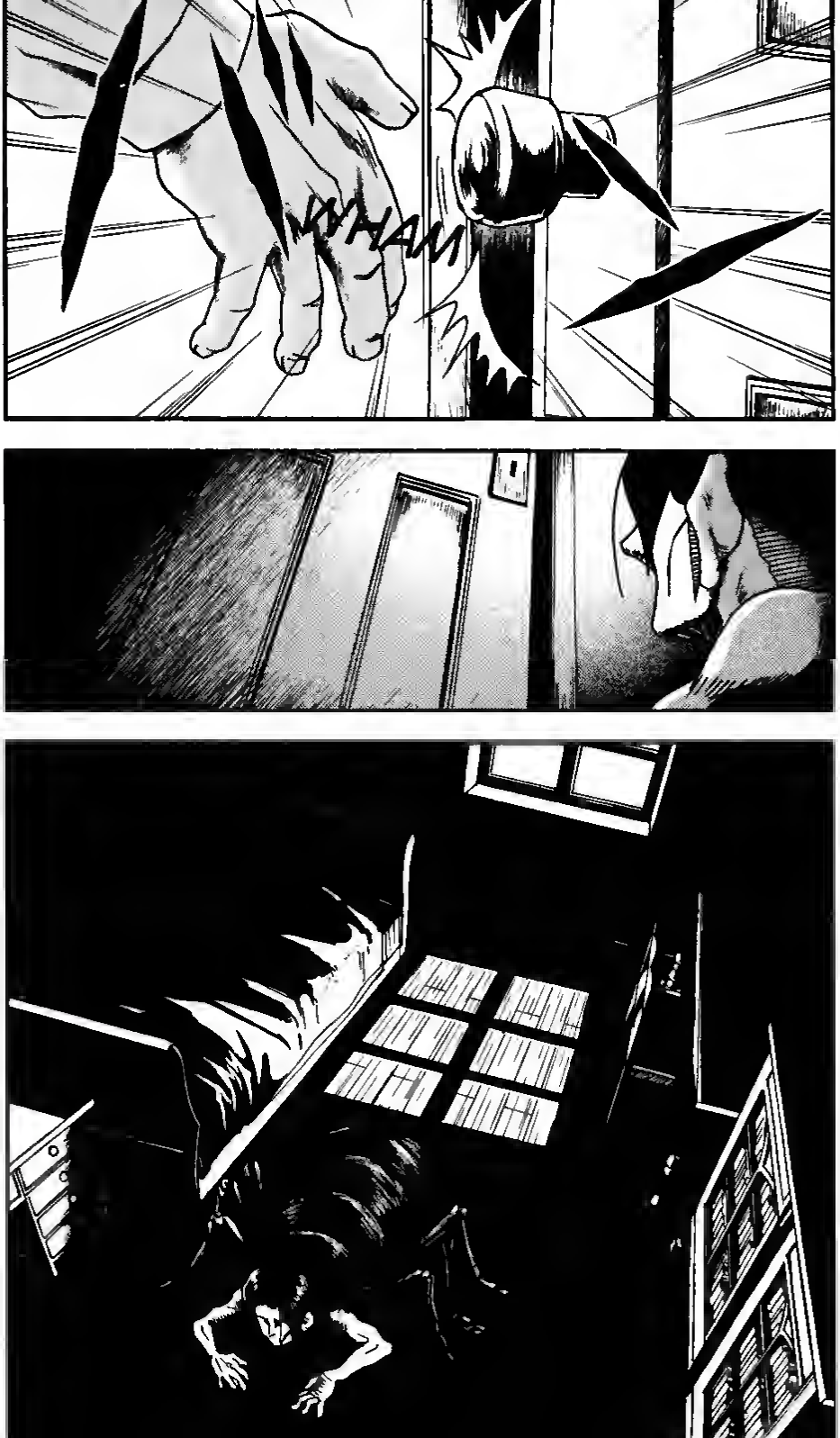
WHEN GREGOR SAMSA AWOKE FROM THE NIGHTMARE THAT MORNING...
THAT DAY...
INSECT

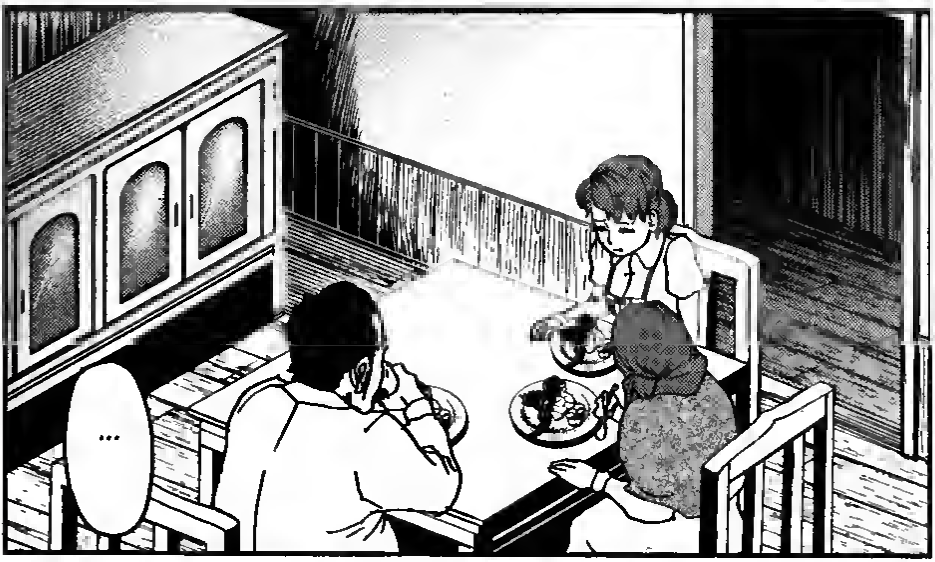
HE REALIZED THAT HIS BODY HAD UNDERGONE A CERTAIN TRANSFOR-MATION...

IT WAS AN ABSURD AND MYSTERIOUS PHENOMENON.

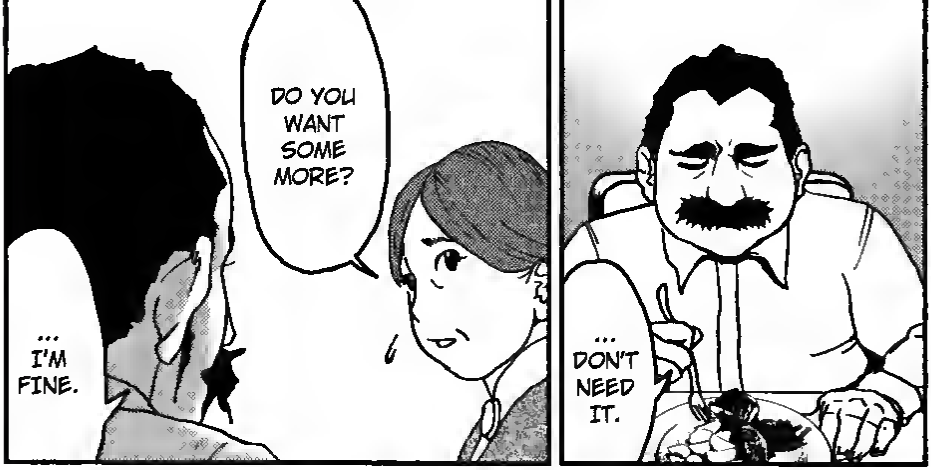
CAN ANYONE WHO WITNESSED THIS WITH THEIR OWN EYES CALMLY MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF THE SITUATION?

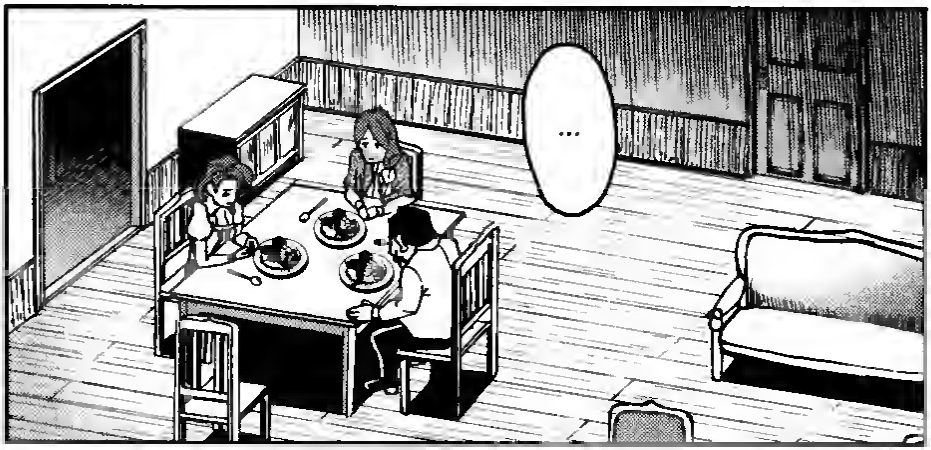
HUFF...
SLIDE...
HUFF...
HUFF...
CREEEAAAK...
...GRE...
GREGOR?




...

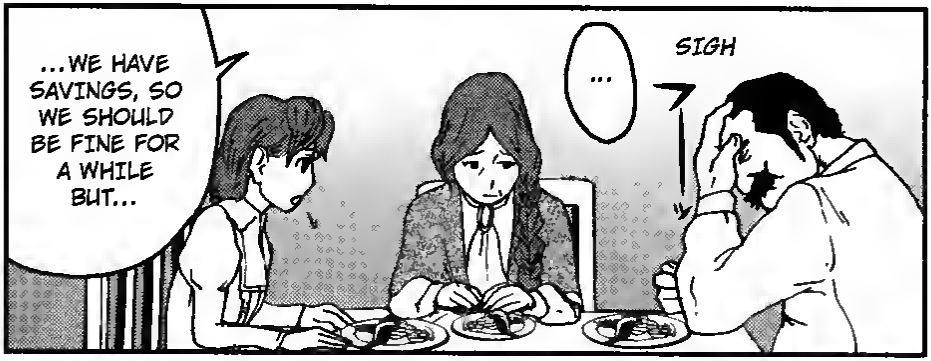
...FATHER, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME BEER?

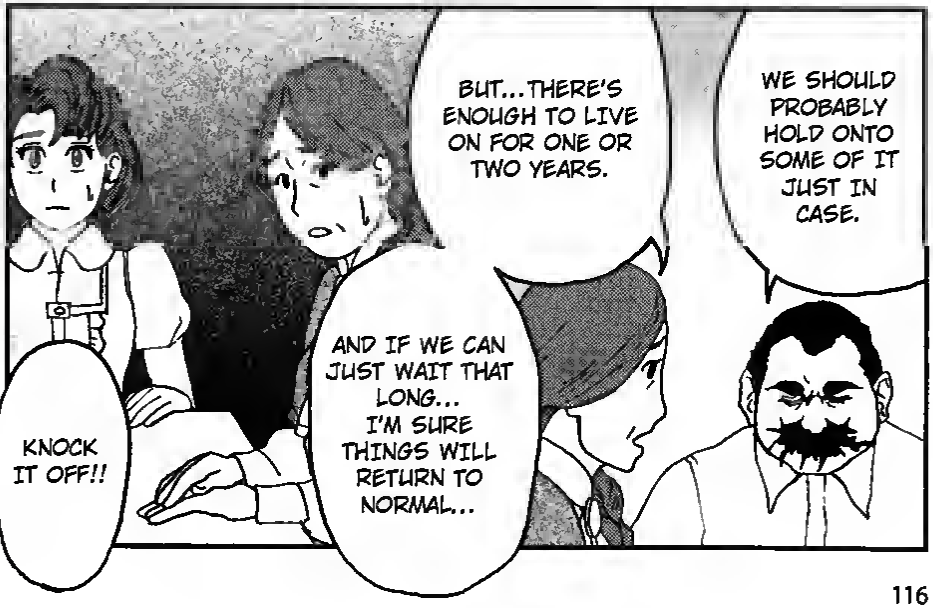

DO YOU WANT SOME MORE?
... I'M FINE.
... DON'T NEED IT.


...

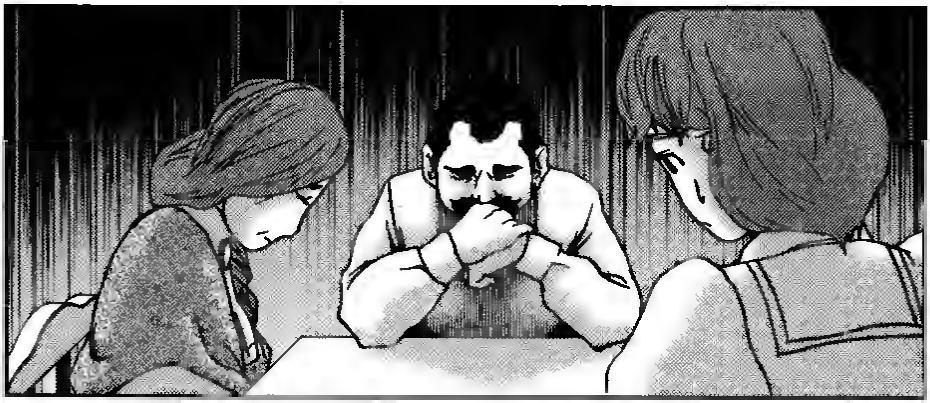
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY IN THE WORLD IS THE HOUSE THIS QUIET?

WHAT'RE WE SUPPOSED TO DO...
FROM NOW ON...
!

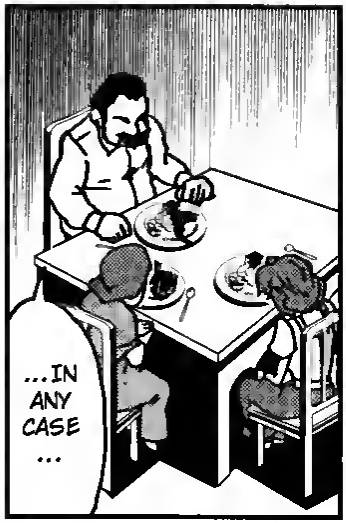

...WE HAVE SAVINGS, SO WE SHOULD BE FINE FOR A WHILE BUT...
...
SIGH

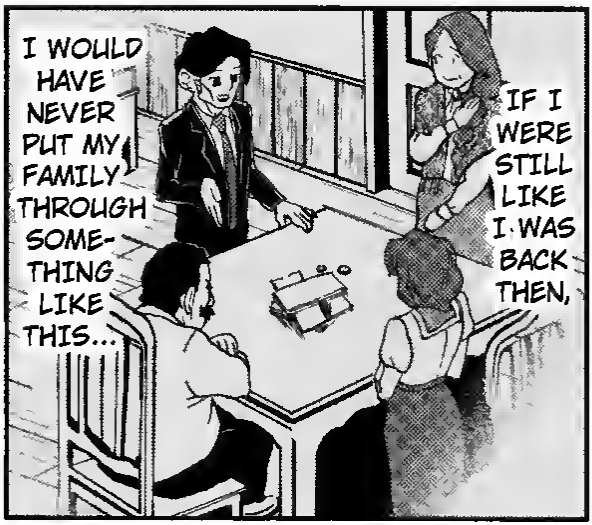

WE SHOULD PROBABLY HOLD ONTO SOME OF IT JUST IN CASE.
BUT...THERE'S ENOUGH TO LIVE ON FOR ONE OR TWO YEARS.
AND IF WE CAN JUST WAIT THAT LONG... I'M SURE THINGS WILL RETURN TO NORMAL...
KNOCK IT OFF!!

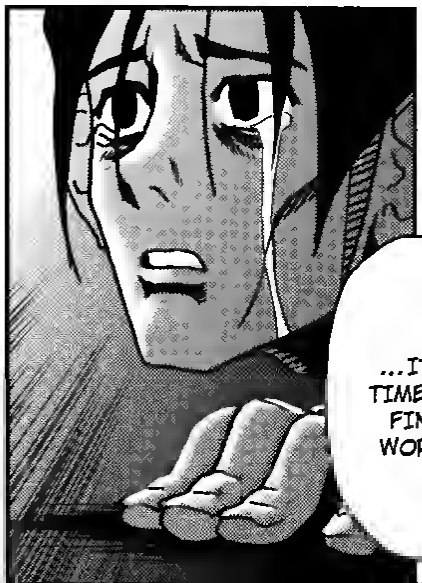
...
DON'T HOLD ON TO FALSE HOPE.

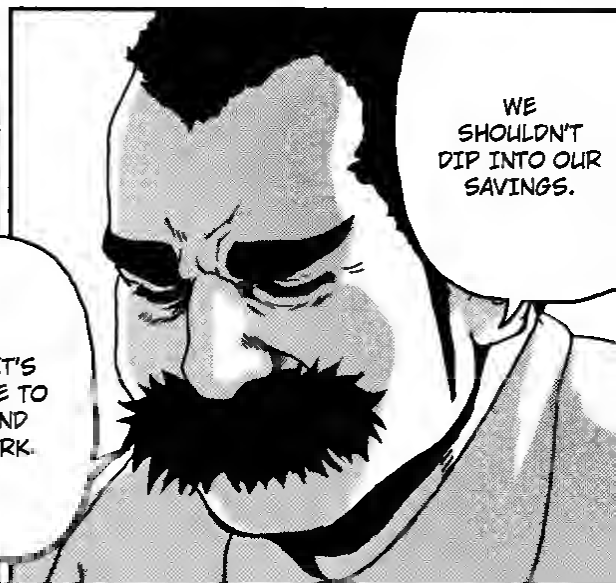


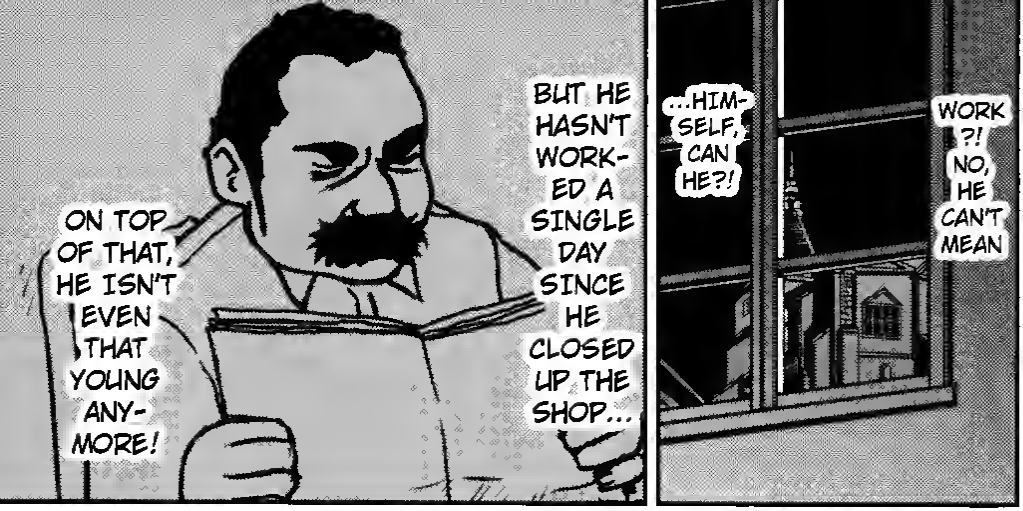
NO... THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.
SCRAPE...

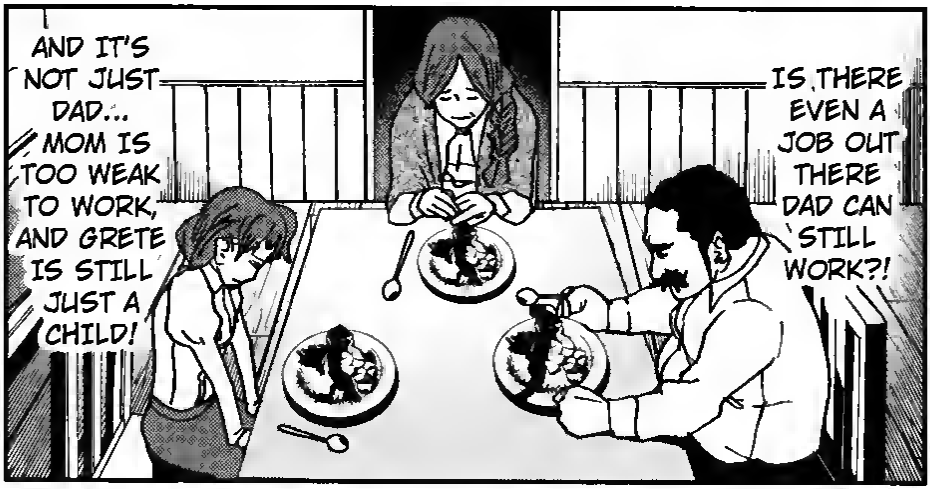

...IN ANY CASE ...

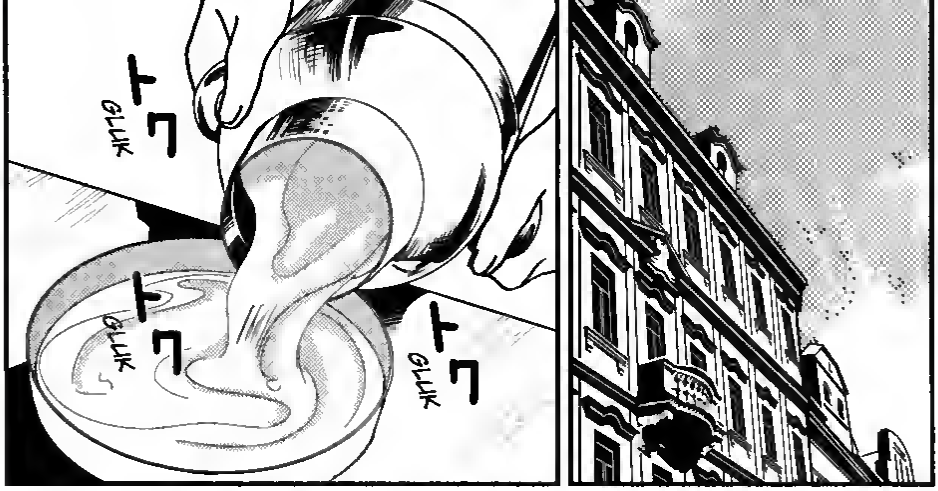

I WOULD HAVE NEVER PUT MY FAMILY THROUGH SOME-THING LIKE THIS...
IF I WERE STILL LIKE I WAS BACK THEN,


...IT'S TIME TO FIND WORK.


WE SHOULDN'T DIP INTO OUR SAVINGS.


ON TOP OF THAT, HE ISN'T EVEN THAT YOUNG ANY-MORE!
BUT HE HASN'T WORK-ED A SINGLE DAY SINCE HE CLOSED UP THE SHOP...
...HIM-SELF, CAN HE?!
WORK?! NO, HE CAN'T MEAN


AND IT'S NOT JUST DAD... MOM IS TOO WEAK TO WORK, AND GRETE IS STILL JUST A CHILD!
IS THERE EVEN A JOB OUT THERE DAD CAN STILL WORK?!

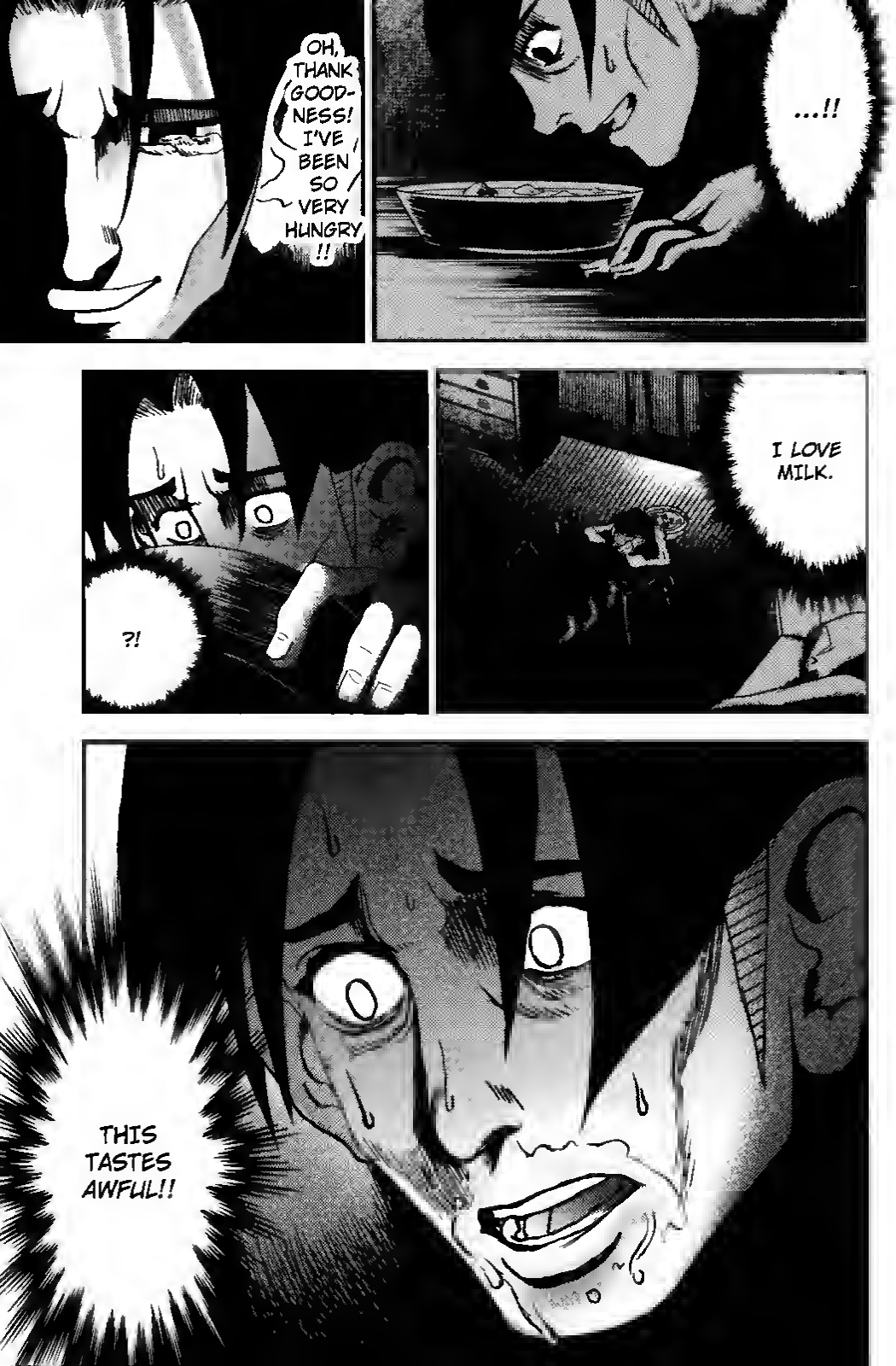

トク
GLUK
トク
GLUK
トク
GLUK

...
ムシ
TEAR
ゴト
CLACK

...I COULDN'T SLEEP A WINK.
I'D RATHER JUST STARVE TO DEATH LIKE THIS...
I'M HUNGRY... I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING SINCE YESTERDAY...
CREEEAK
KER-CHAK
?!

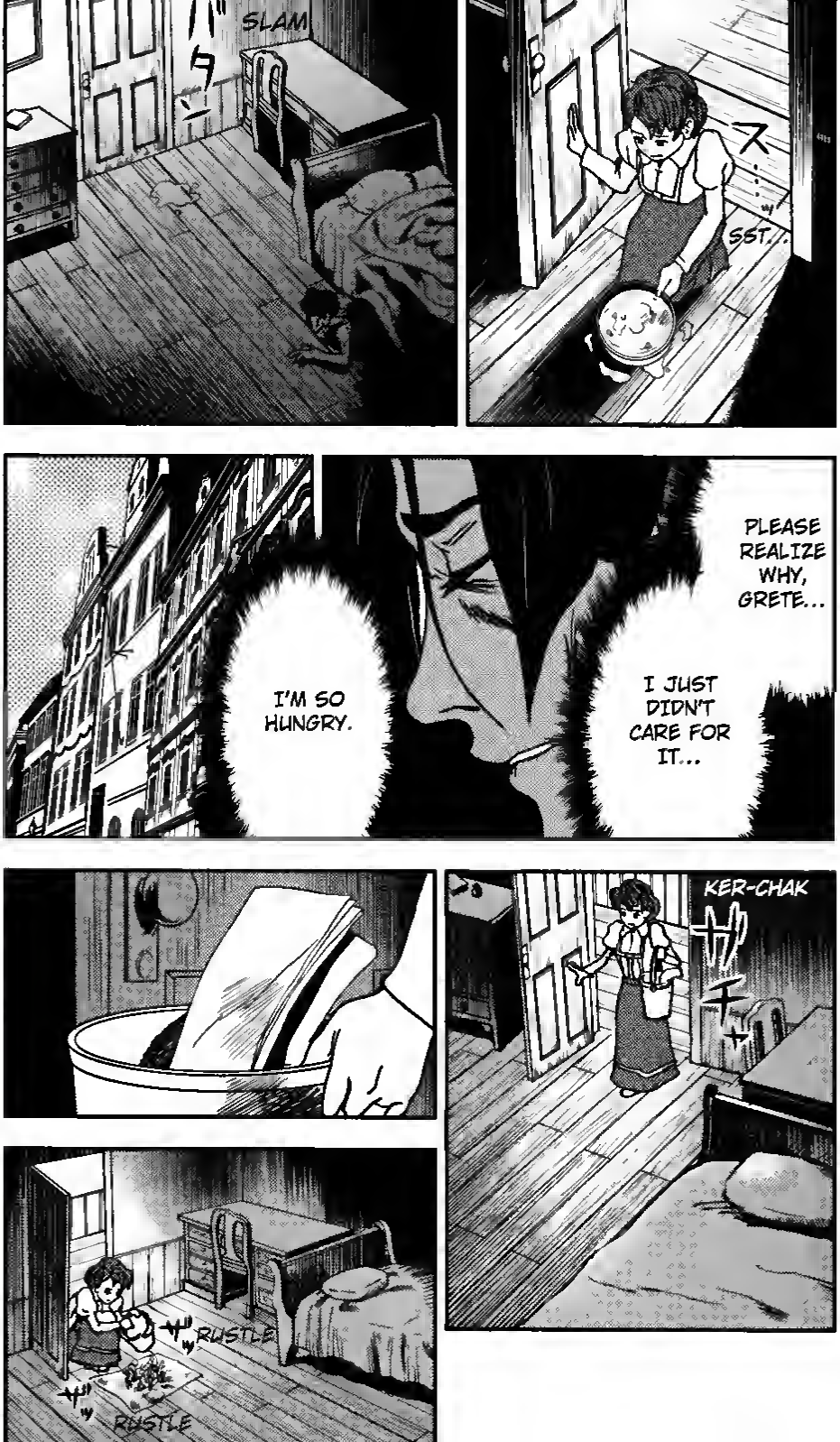
I SMELL MILK!
SHE BROUGHT SOME FOOD FOR ME?!

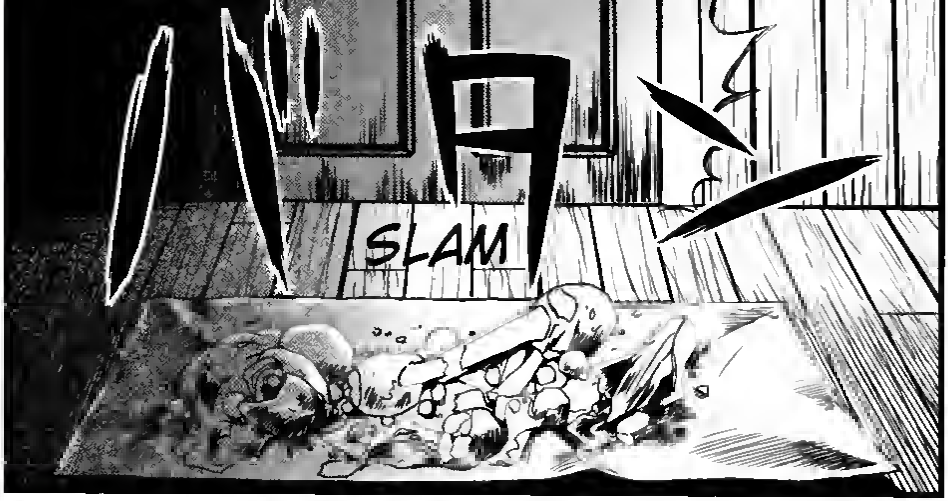
WAIT, DID SHE JUST LEAVE SOMETHING INSIDE THE ROOM?
!


OH, THANK GOOD-NESS! I'VE BEEN SO VERY HUNGRY !!
...!!
?!
I LOVE MILK.
THIS TASTES AWFUL!!

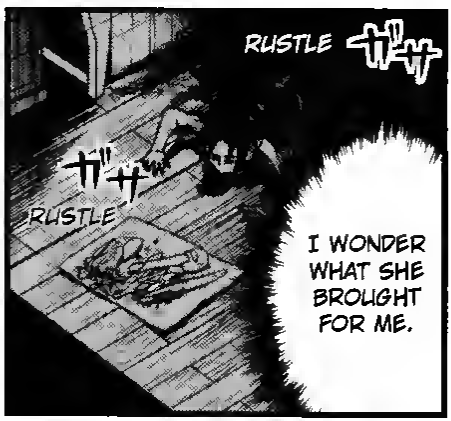
HARDLY ANY OF IT'S GONE...

...


SLAM
バタン
SST...
PLEASE REALIZE WHY, GRETE...
I'M SO HUNGRY.
I JUST DIDN'T CARE FOR IT...
KER-CHAK
RUSTLE
RUSTLE


SLAM

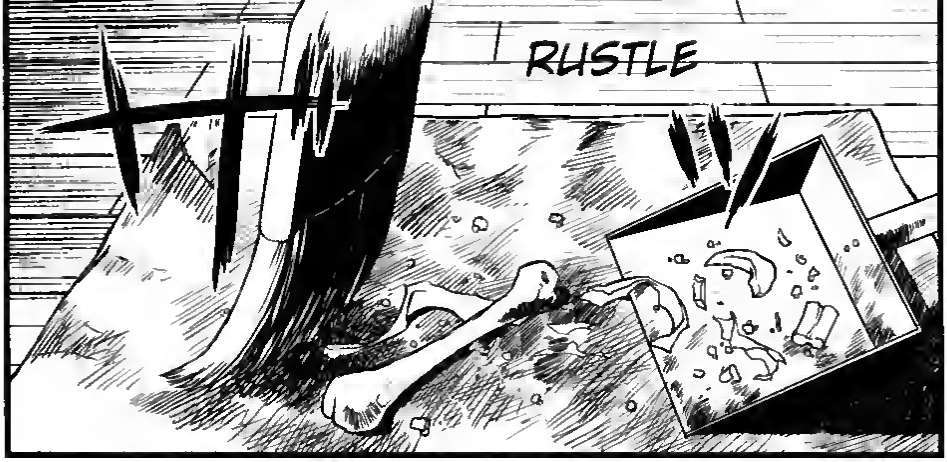
WH-WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?!

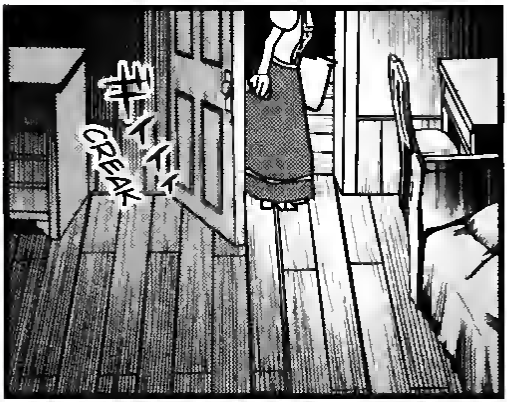

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
I WONDER WHAT SHE BROUGHT FOR ME.

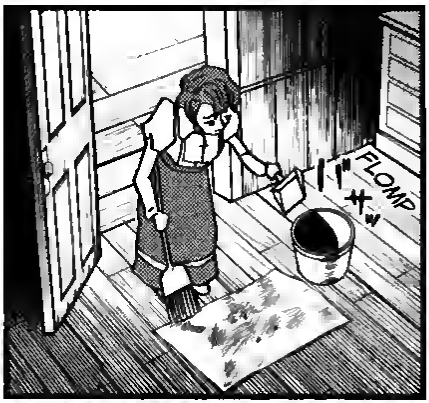
GROOOWWWL...
OHHH...

IT'S ROTTING VEGETABLES, MOLDY BREAD...AND BONES...
IT'S ALMOST ENTIRELY KITCHEN SCRAPS!!

CHOMP
BUT IT SURE SMELLS GOOD...
GULP...
ゴク...
IT'S DELICIOUS!
...IT'S...
DELICIOUS!!


RUSTLE


CREAK


FLOMP

GOOD ...
HE ATE WELL...

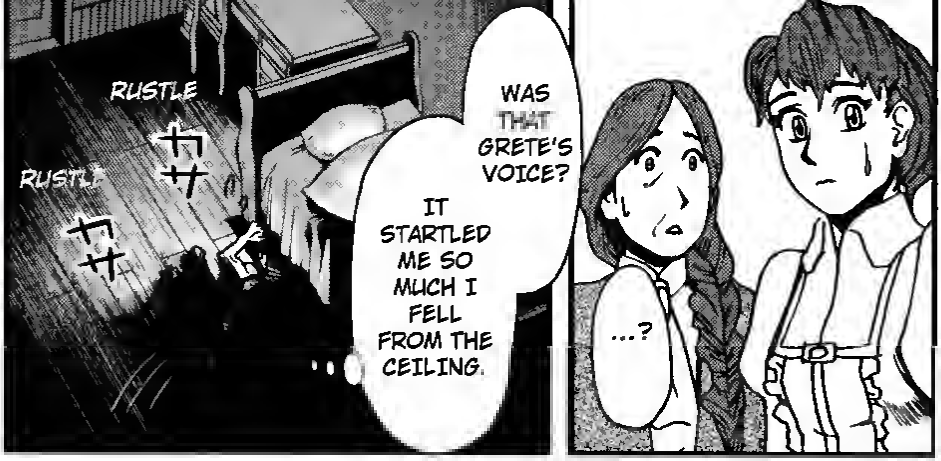
SLAM

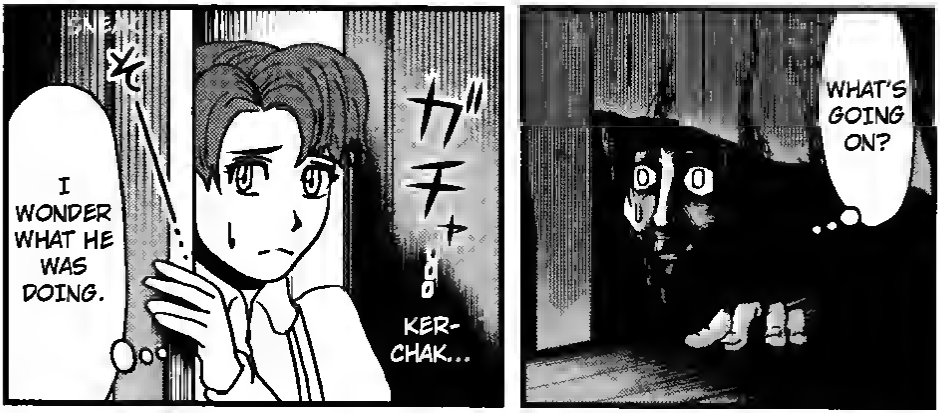
WOW, THAT WAS GOOD... NOW I'M FULL...

HOW'S GREGOR?
GRETE!
COULDN'T I AT LEAST SEE HIM JUST FOR A MINUTE?
NO, MOTHER! YOU CAN'T!
PHEW
ホッ
THAT'S GOOD ...
HE SEEMS FINE, AND HE'S EATING TOO...
...BUT HE'S MY DEAR SON.
YOU'D FAINT IF YOU SAW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE NOW!
AND I'M SURE HE WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE SEEING WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE.

I KNOW!
...
ISN'T THERE AT LEAST SOMETHING WE CAN DO FOR HIM?
IT'D BE A BIG HELP IF YOU COULD LEND ME A HAND.
I WAS THINKING I'D MOVE THE UNNECESSARY FURNITURE INTO ANOTHER ROOM.
I'M GOING TO CLEAN HIS ROOM TOMORROW!
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?
HE DOESN'T NEED IT NOW, RIGHT?
BUT DO WE REALLY NEED TO GO SO FAR AS REMOVING THE FURNITURE ...?
...OF... OF COURSE I'LL HELP...

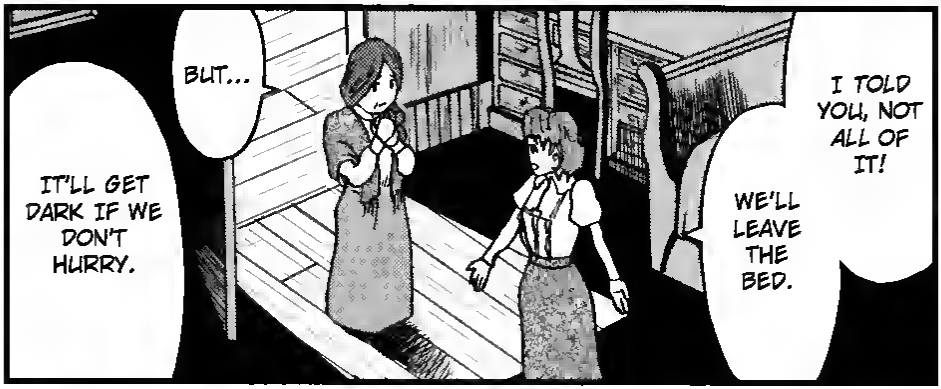
...MMM.
THIS IS SO CALMING ...
COME ON, MOTHER! HURRY UP!
JOLT
ドン
THUD
?!
AFTER GETTING USED TO THINGS LIKE THIS...
...THIS BODY MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD AFTER ALL.


RUSTLE
RUSTLE
WAS THAT GRETE'S VOICE?
IT STARTLED ME SO MUCH I FELL FROM THE CEILING.
...?

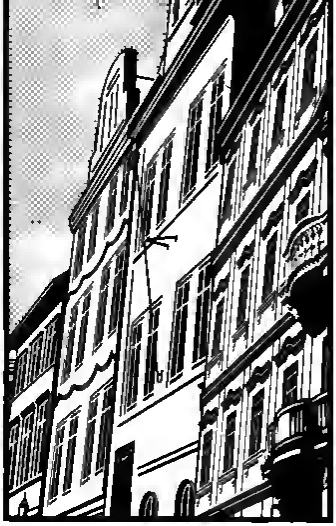

I WONDER WHAT HE WAS DOING.
KER-CHAK...
WHAT'S GOING ON?

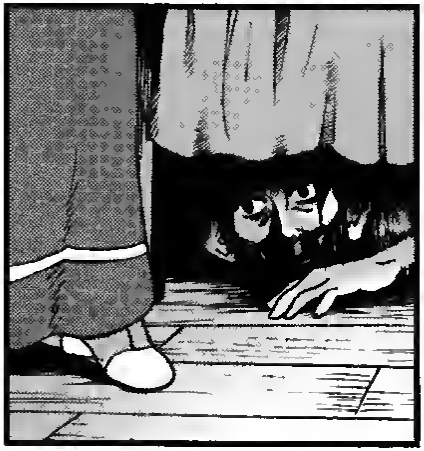
...
IT'S OKAY, MOTHER. COME ON IN...

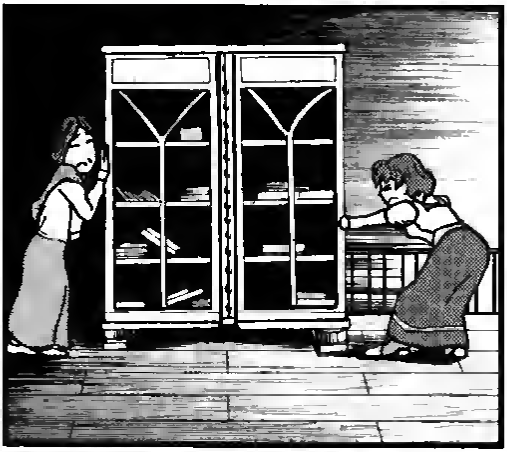
SO WE REALLY ARE...
GOING TO MOVE ALL THE FURNITURE OUT OF THE ROOM?
!

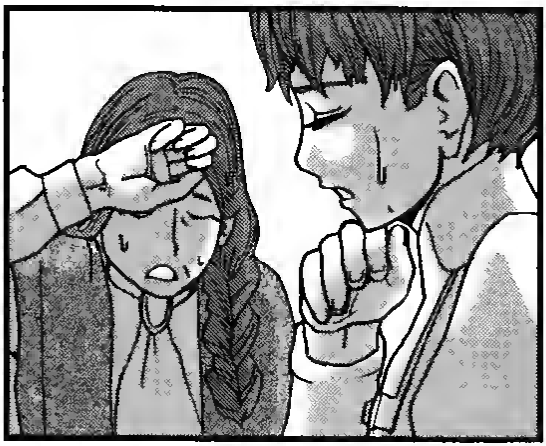

I TOLD YOU, NOT ALL OF IT!
WE'LL LEAVE THE BED.
BUT...
IT'LL GET DARK IF WE DON'T HURRY.

SO THEY'RE GOING TO REMOVE THE FURNITURE?
WELL, I GUESS I DON'T REALLY NEED IT RIGHT NOW...
COME ON, LET'S GET STARTED!
...

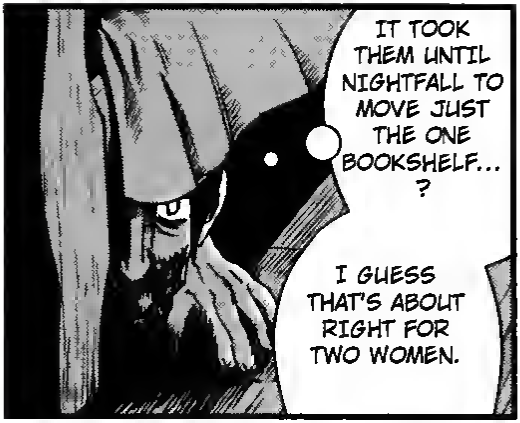


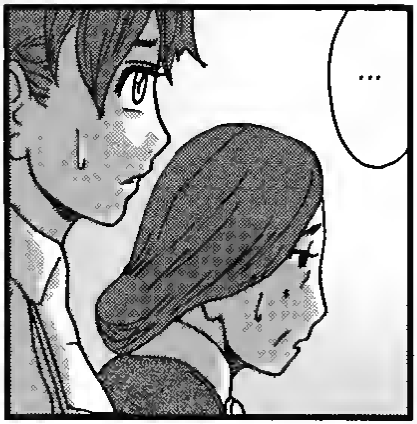






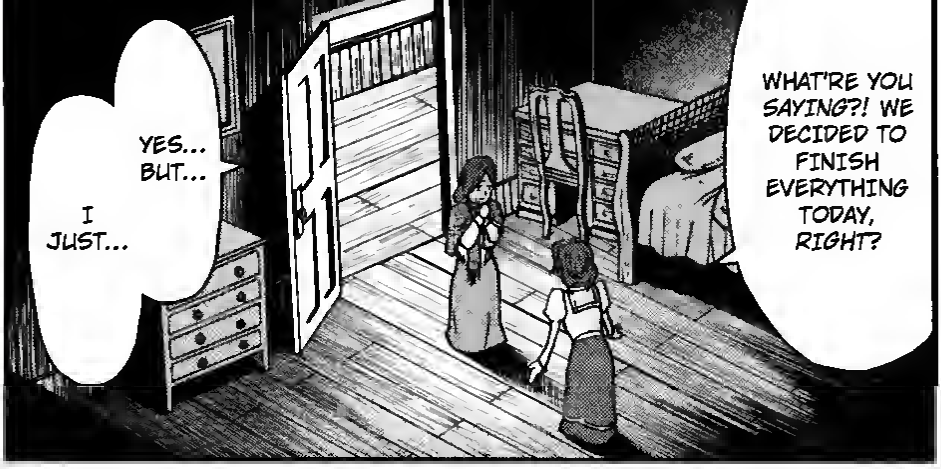
WHEW...


IT TOOK THEM UNTIL NIGHTFALL TO MOVE JUST THE ONE BOOKSHELF...?
I GUESS THAT'S ABOUT RIGHT FOR TWO WOMEN.


...

!
I JUST DON'T THINK THIS IS A GOOD IDEA.

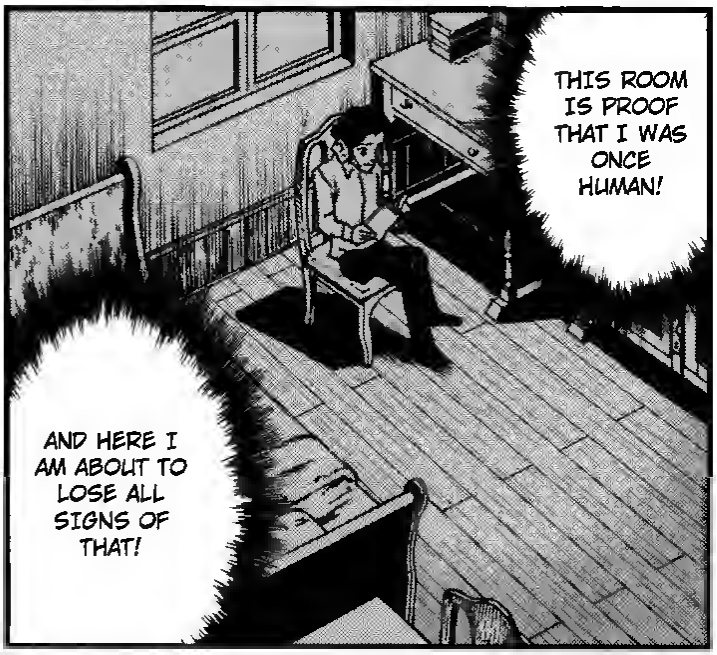
HEY, GRETE...
OKAY! NEXT WE'LL MOVE THE DESK!


WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?! WE DECIDED TO FINISH EVERYTHING TODAY, RIGHT?
YES... BUT... I JUST...

WHAT'RE THEY ARGUING ABOUT?
YOU JUST WHAT?!
DON'T BE GOING ON ABOUT THIS NOW!
...

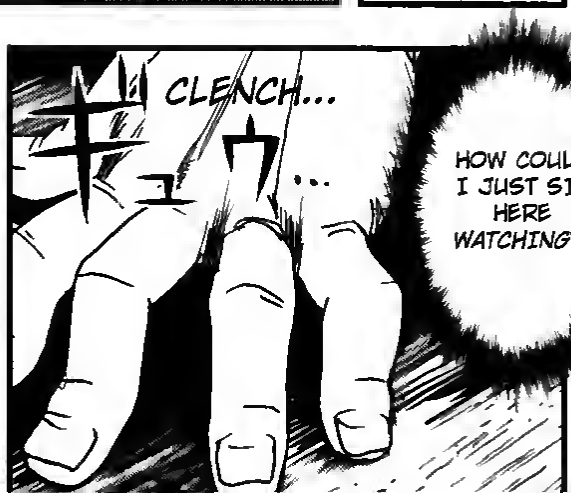
...I JUST THINK IT'S BETTER TO LEAVE THE ROOM AS IT IS
AFTER ALL... ABANDONING THE CHANCE THAT HE COULD GET BETTER...
WOULD BE AKIN TO ABANDONING HIM...

!!
TO LEAVE THE ROOM AS IT IS FOR WHEN HE RETURNS TO NORMAL...?
DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE BEST...

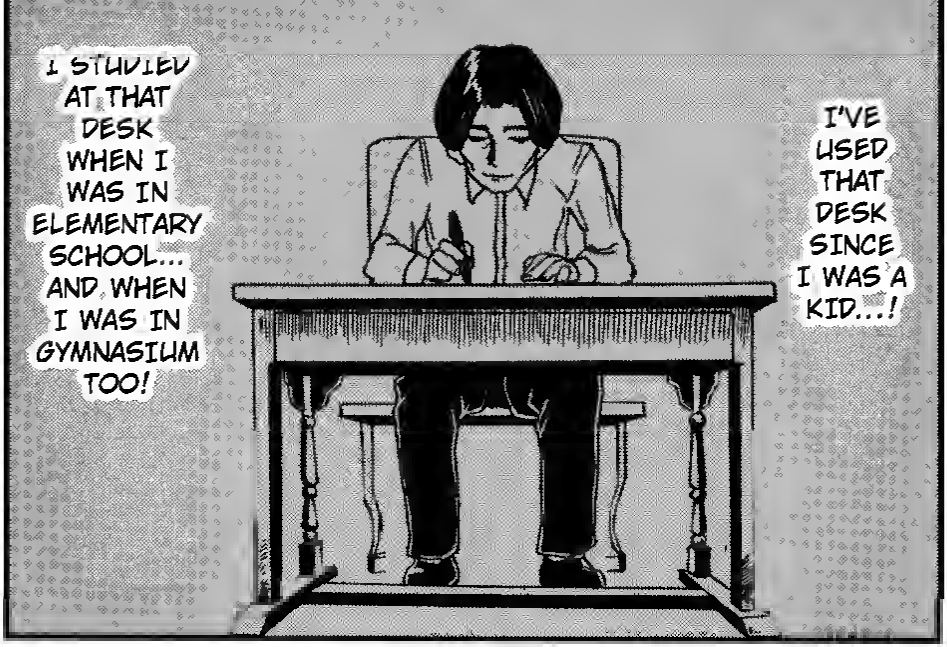

AND HERE I AM ABOUT TO LOSE ALL SIGNS OF THAT!
THIS ROOM IS PROOF THAT I WAS ONCE HUMAN!

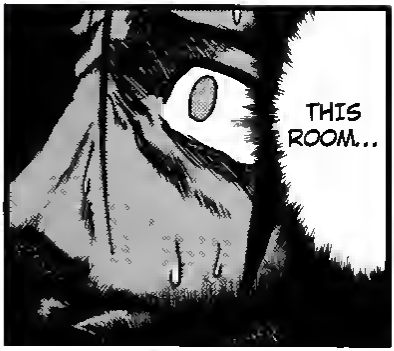
...THAT'S RIGHT...

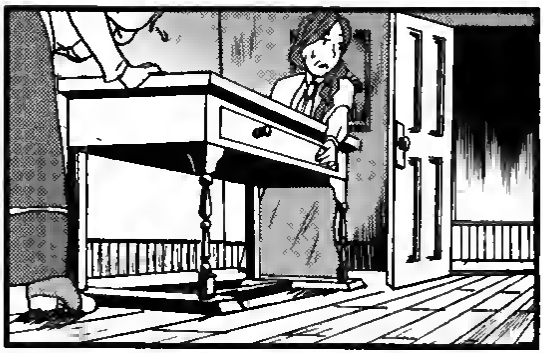
NO...!

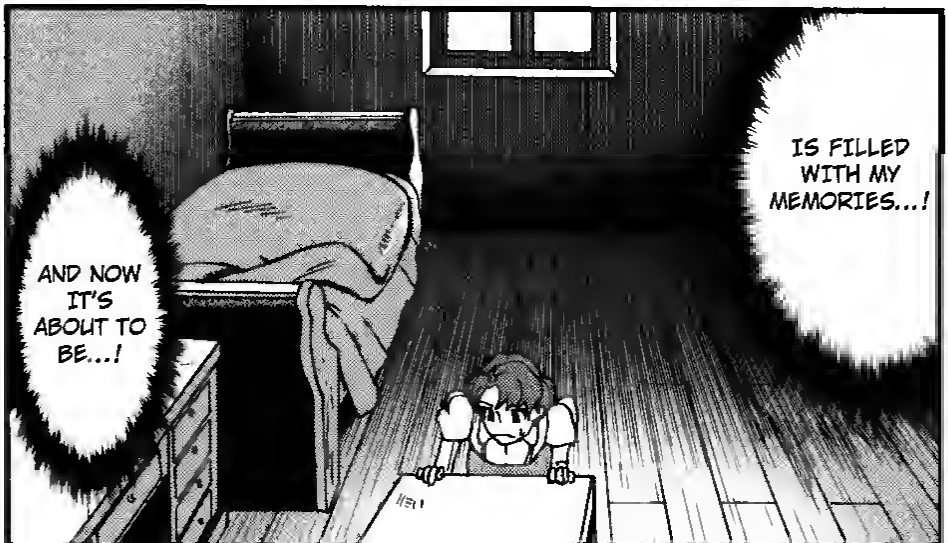

CLENCH...
HOW COULD I JUST SIT HERE WATCHING?!

YOU DON'T GET IT AT ALL, MOTHER!
NO!
THIS FURNITURE WOULD JUST BE IN GREGOR'S WAY!
...!!
OKAY!
WHAM!
THE DESK IS NEXT!
...
NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, GRETE!
I SAID WE WERE GOING TO DO THIS SO LET'S DO THIS!
THAT DESK...!


I STUDIED AT THAT DESK WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL... AND WHEN I WAS IN GYMNASIUM TOO!
I'VE USED THAT DESK SINCE I WAS A KID...!

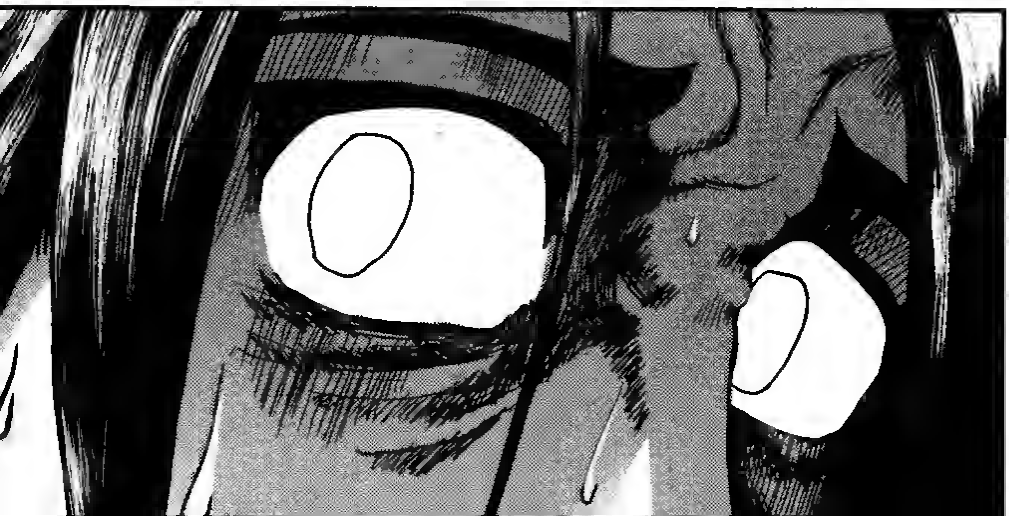

THIS ROOM...




AND NOW IT'S ABOUT TO BE...!
IS FILLED WITH MY MEMORIES...!

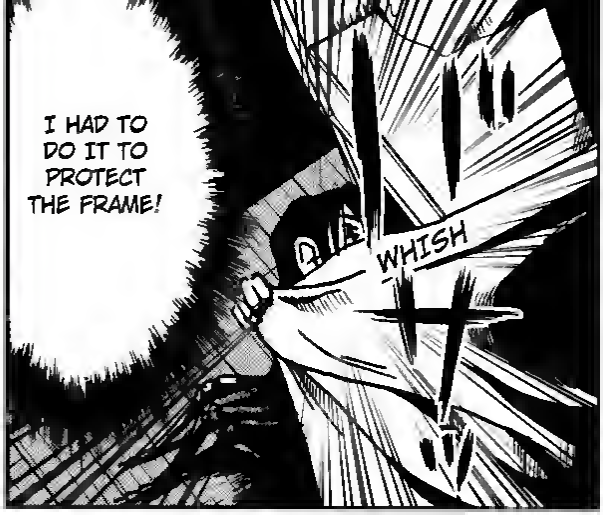
SLIDE
I'VE GOT TO STOP THIS...!
SLIDE
I DON'T CARE IF THEY SEE WHAT I LOOK LIKE!
SLIDE
RATTLE...
SLIDE...

LET'S... SEE, WHAT'S NEXT...?
?!



OHH ...MY GOD ...
THUD
EEK!!
WHY CAN'T YOU JUST BE STILL?!
YOU IDIOT!!
MOTHER!
GLARE

I'M HOME.
WHAT'S ALL THE RAUCOUS?
FATHER!
IT'S MOTHER!
?!
WHAT HAP-PENED ?!
IT'S GREGOR'S FAULT!!
...I KNEW IT...
I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN AT SOME POINT...


I HAD TO DO IT TO PROTECT THE FRAME!
WHISH

I WONDER...IF MOTHER'S OKAY.
TUG...

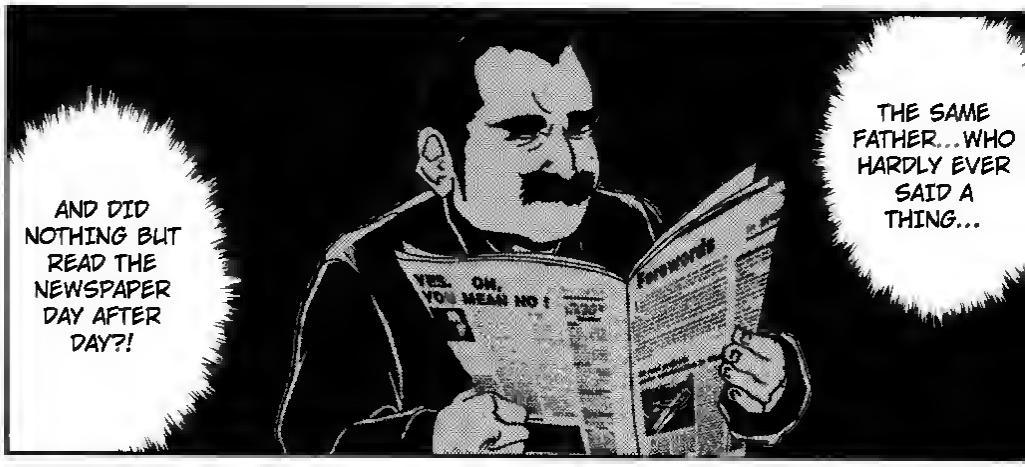
NOW THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE WHAT I LOOK LIKE! IT'LL BE OKAY!

KER-CHAK
?!

MOTHER !!
SLIDE
SLIDE

GREGOR!!
FATHER?!

IS THAT REALLY...MY FATHER?!
IS THAT... A BANK SECURITY GUARD UNIFORM? DID HE ACTUALLY... GET A JOB?!


AND DID NOTHING BUT READ THE NEWSPAPER DAY AFTER DAY?!
THE SAME FATHER...WHO HARDLY EVER SAID A THING...

URGH.

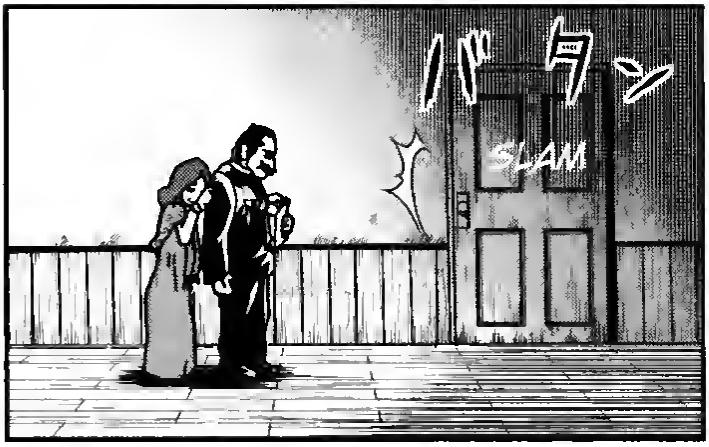
GRAB!

YOU LITTLE CREEP!!

HUFF
HUFF
WHACK!!
HOLD IT!!
WHOOSH
PANIC
PANIC
TWIRL
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE...!
WHAM

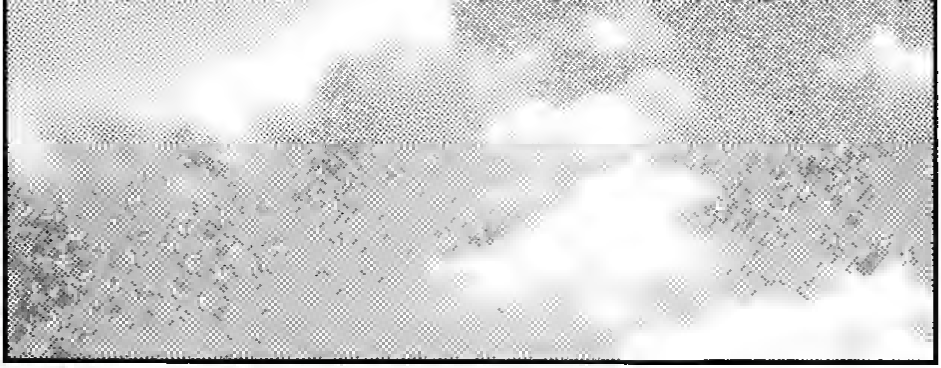
RIP...
URGH!!
OOZE...

STOP!
STOP IT, DEAR!
...!!
WOBBLE...
DON'T KILL GREGOR!
DON'T KILL MY SON!
M.... MOTHER...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF



NOT ONLY THAT, NO ONE WOULD REMOVE THE APPLE STUCK IN MY BACK AND IT WOULD REMAIN THERE TO ROT...

NO ONE WOULD EVER TREAT THE WOUND ON MY BACK...



I SPENT THE WHOLE DAY DOING NOTHING BUT STARING OUT THE WINDOW...

UNTIL, AT LENGTH, I COULD BARELY WALK ANYMORE...

DAY BY DAY, MY STRENGTH CONTINUED TO DIMINISH...

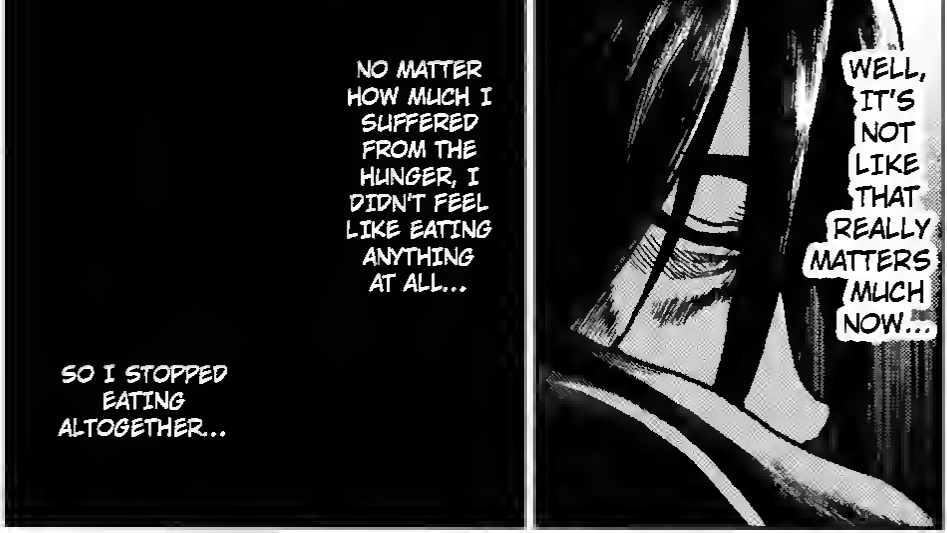
SHE WAS STILL PREPARING MEALS FOR ME AS USUAL, BUT WAS CLEARLY CUTTING CORNERS MORE THAN BEFORE.

NOW, IT WAS PRETTY MUCH JUST THE HOUSE GARBAGE TOSSED ONTO A PLATE.

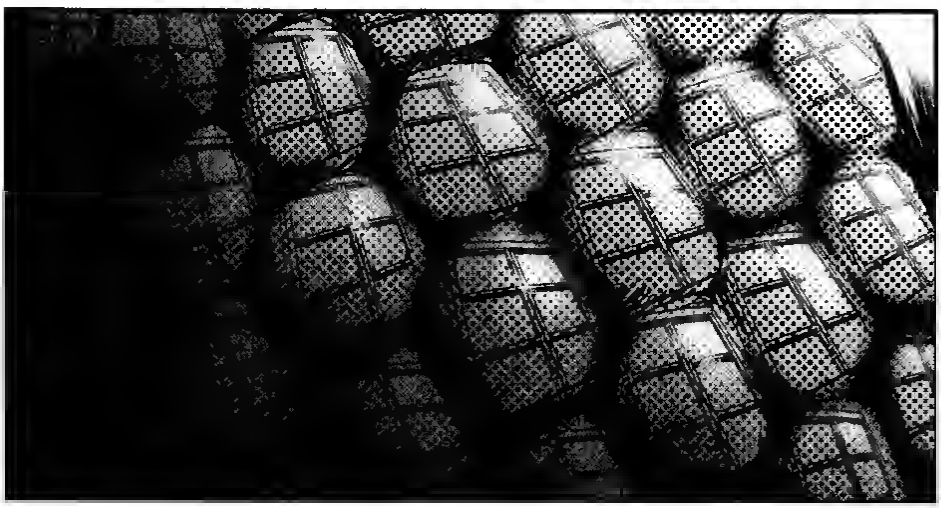
コト...

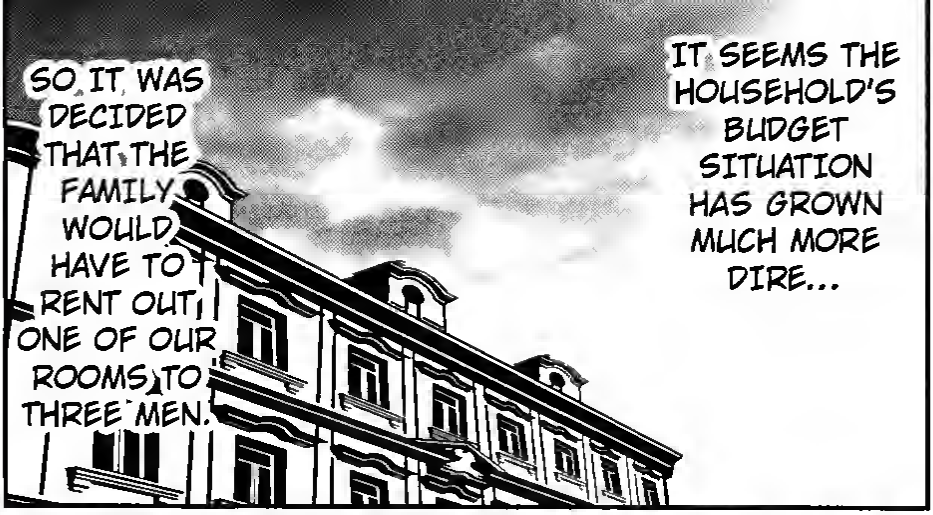
IT SEEMS GRETE HAS RECENTLY FOUND HERSELF A JOB OUTSIDE THE HOUSE AS WELL.

SLAM


NO MATTER HOW MUCH I SUFFERED FROM THE HUNGER, I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE EATING ANYTHING AT ALL...
SO I STOPPED EATING ALTOGETHER...
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT REALLY MATTERS MUCH NOW...

MY VISION HAS GOTTEN BLURRY / AS, WELL...
OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS...

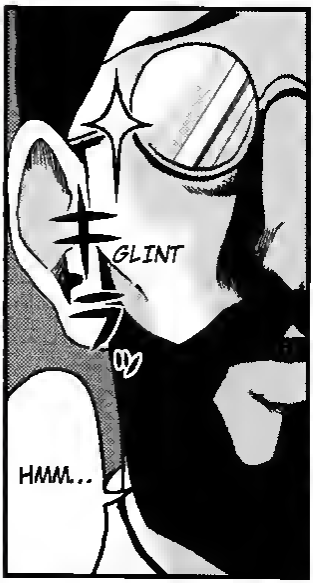


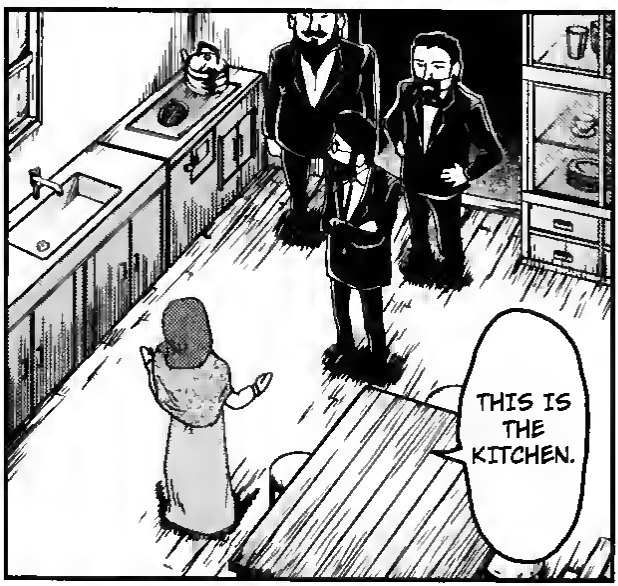

IT SEEMS THE HOUSEHOLD'S BUDGET SITUATION HAS GROWN MUCH MORE DIRE...
SO IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE FAMILY WOULD HAVE TO RENT OUT ONE OF OUR ROOMS TO THREE MEN.

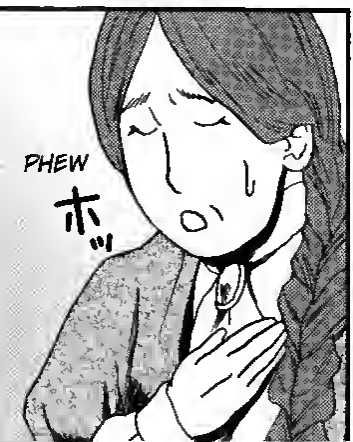
WE ARE...
LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR STAY.

AND WE ARE...
PLEASED TO HAVE YOU HERE.

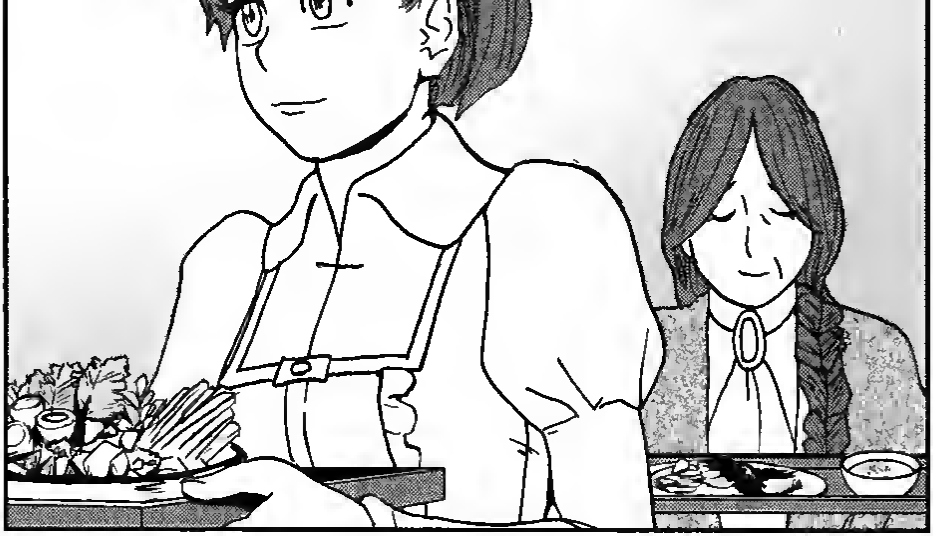
THIS IS THE LIVING ROOM.
PLEASE HAVE YOUR MEALS IN HERE.

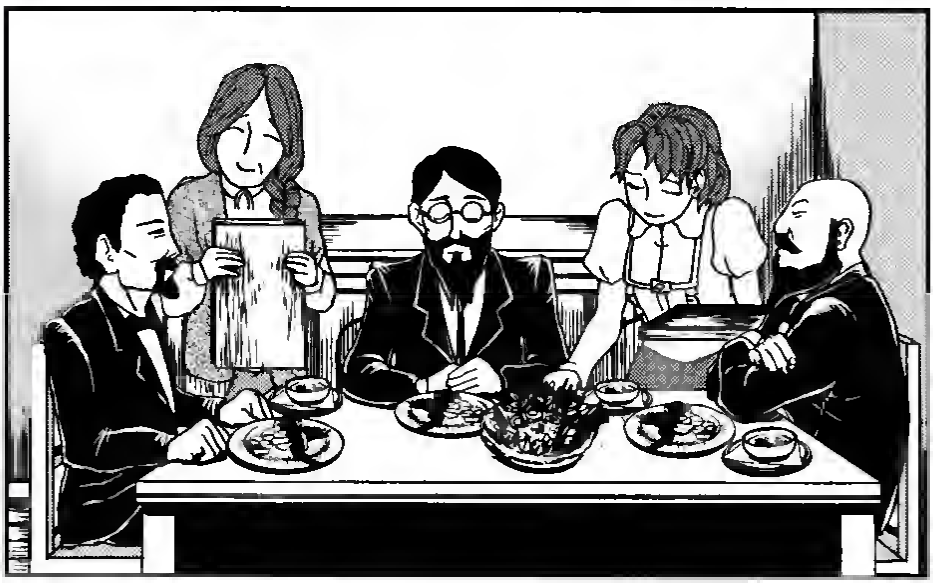

GLINT
HMM..


THIS IS THE KITCHEN.


PHEW

IT'S THE PERFECT PLACE FOR US TO LIVE!
WHAT A TRULY BEAUTIFUL HOME.

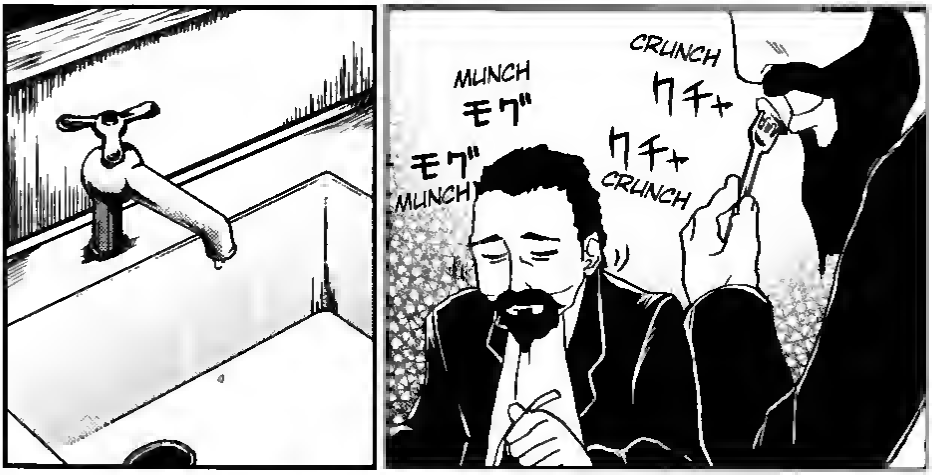


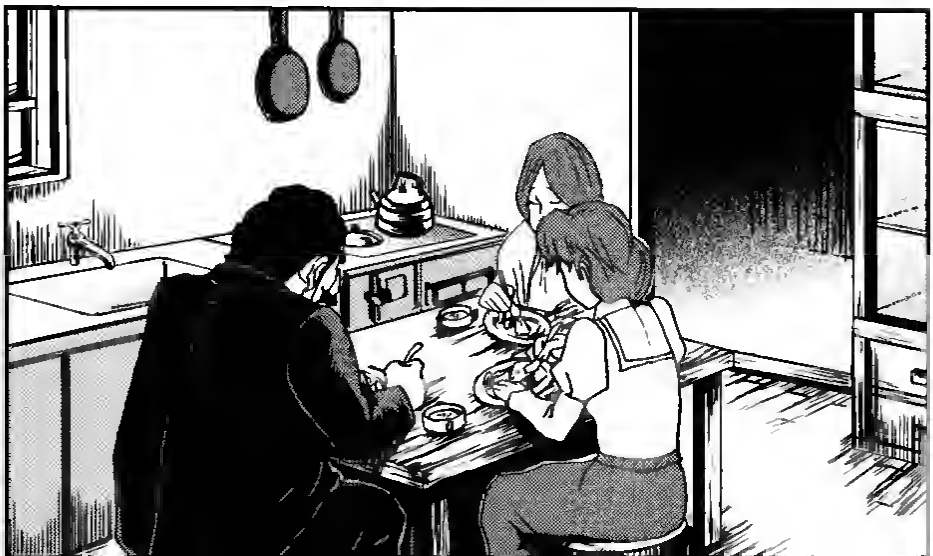


NO NEED TO TROUBLE YOURSELF.

PLEASE MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME.

SNIFF
クン
クン
SNIFF
カチャ
CLINK
カチャ
CLINK
キュッ
キュッ

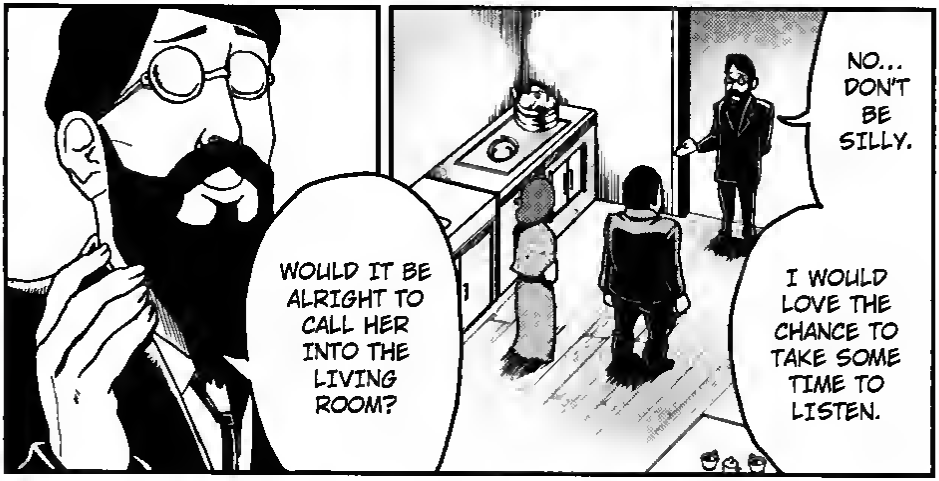

MUNCH
モグ
モグ
MUNCH
CRUNCH
クチャ
クチャ
CRUNCH



LEAVE ME BE...
...DEAR, WHY DON'T YOU CHANGE OUT OF YOUR UNIFORM?
SQUEAK...

!
SQUEAK
MR. SAMSA!
!
IT'S THE VIOLIN...

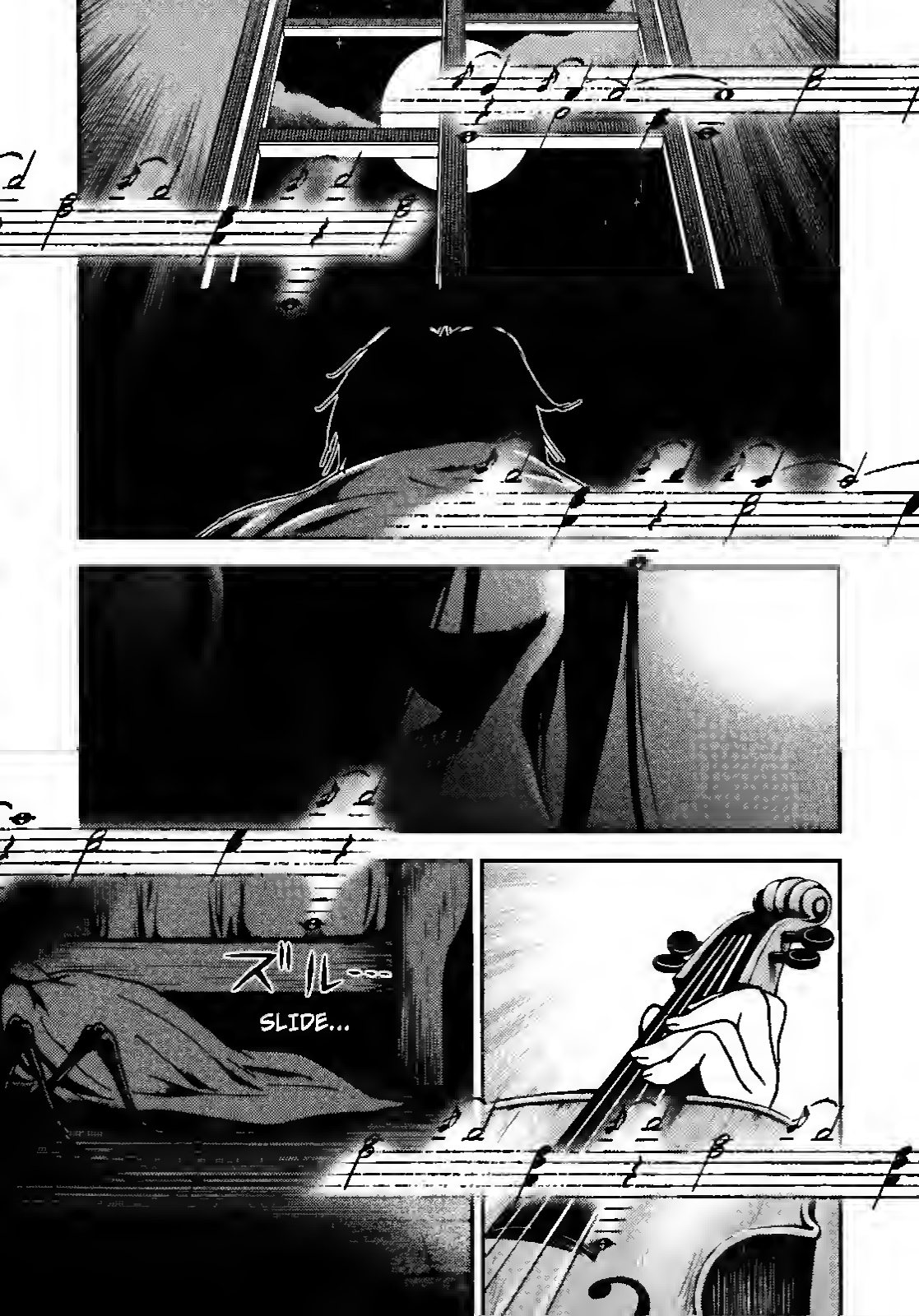
I'M SO SORRY FOR THE NOISE.
I'LL TELL HER TO STOP IMMEDI-ATELY.
THE VIOLIN?
OH, MY DAUGHTER'S PRACTICING IN HER ROOM.


WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT TO CALL HER INTO THE LIVING ROOM?
NO... DON'T BE SILLY.
I WOULD LOVE THE CHANCE TO TAKE SOME TIME TO LISTEN.

YES, CERTAINLY. I'LL HAVE HER COME TO THE LIVING ROOM RIGHT AWAY!

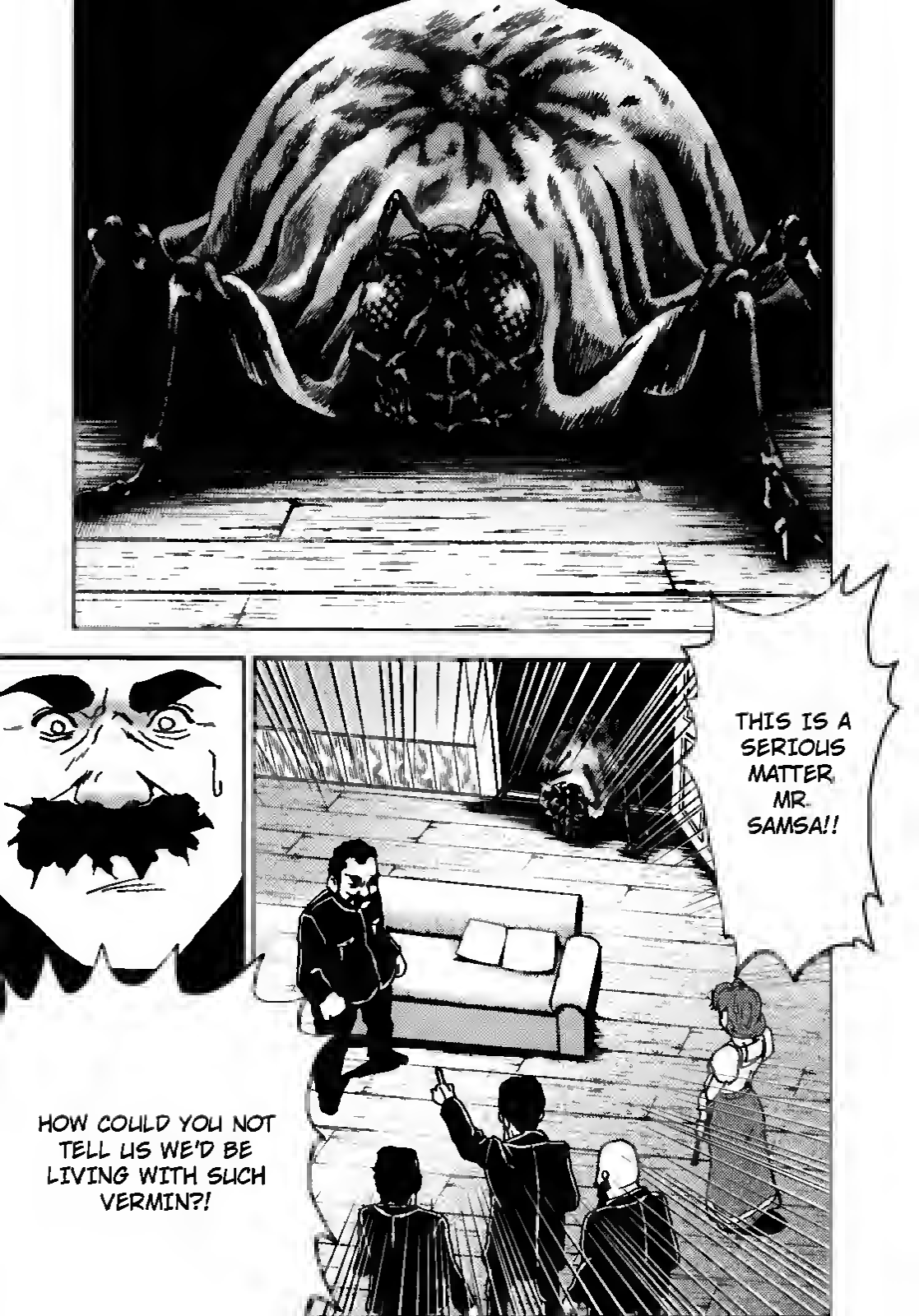
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
DO YOU HAVE ANY REQUESTS?
UM... ALRIGHT THEN...
O...OKAY ...HERE GOES...
JUST PLAY ONE OF YOUR FAVORITES

I WILL PLAY...
SQUEAK
SATIE'S "GNOSSIENNES"


ズ"ル---
SLIDE...

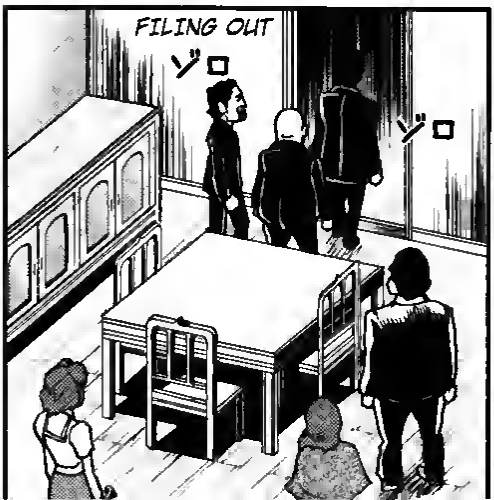
SLIDE...
KER-
CHAK
...I'M SATIS-FIED.
?!
SLIDE...
SLIDE...
CREEEAAAK

...
GREGOR.
GRE...
GREGOR!
...WHA
...
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT...
DAMN BUG?!


THIS IS A SERIOUS MATTER, MR. SAMSA!!
HOW COULD YOU NOT TELL US WE'D BE LIVING WITH SUCH VERMIN?!

AND WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF PAYING THE RENT!!
WE DECLARE THE TERMINATION OF OUR ROOM AGREEMENT IMMEDIATELY!

THEN I WILL HAVE YOU ALL LEAVE RIGHT THIS MINUTE!
...VERY WELL.


FILING OUT
ゾロ
ゾロ

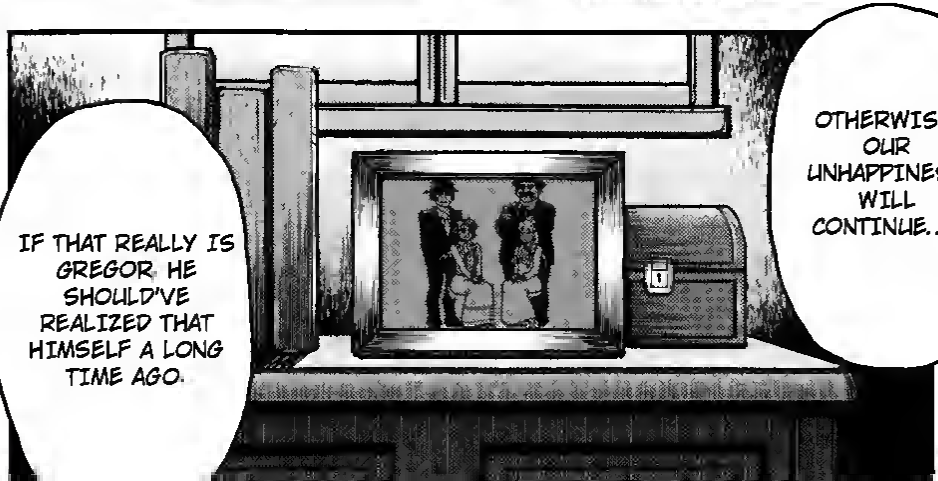
...!!

FATHER... MOTHER...
...I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE.
...IT'S ...NO GOOD.
TREMBLE
TREMBLE...
I CAN'T CALL THAT DISGUSTING CREATURE MY BROTHER ANYMORE!
...
YOU'RE... RIGHT...
I SOMEHOW MANAGED TO PUT UP WITH IT AND LOOK AFTER HIM.
BUT I JUST CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE...

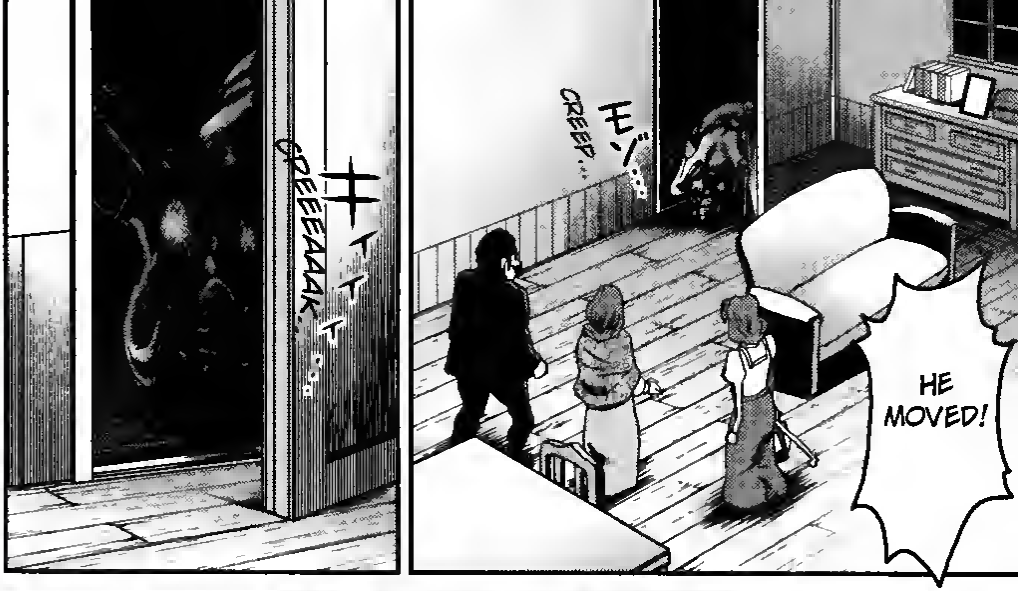
NO, FATHER!
DON'T THINK OF THAT THING AS GREGOR!

IF ONLY... HE COULD UNDERSTAND WORDS.

WE'VE GOT TO CUT TIES WITH HIM!
WE CAN'T HAVE HIM HERE ANYMORE.


OTHERWISE, OUR UNHAPPINESS WILL CONTINUE...!
IF THAT REALLY IS GREGOR, HE SHOULD'VE REALIZED THAT HIMSELF A LONG TIME AGO.

ピク
TWITCH

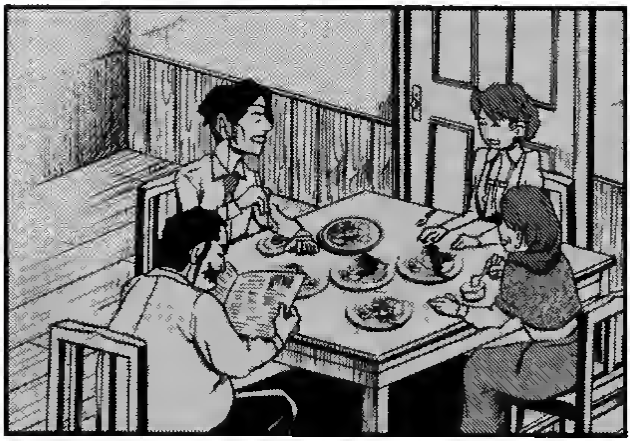

CREEEAAAK...
CREEP...
HE MOVED!

SLAM

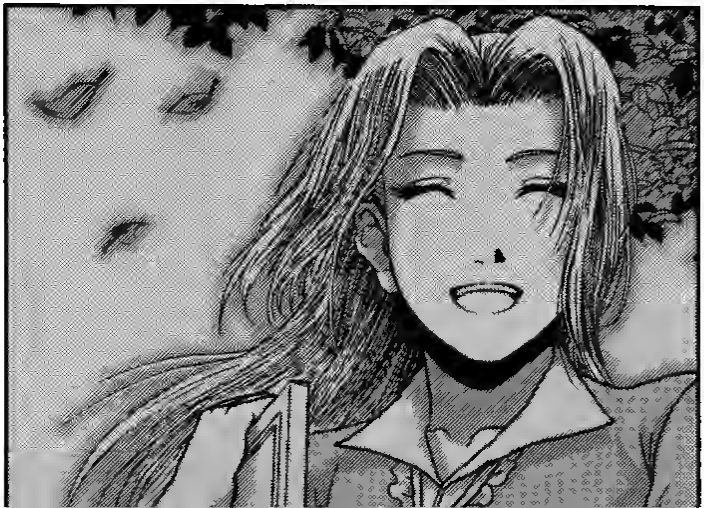
I'D ALREADY LOST SENSATION IN MY LIMBS...

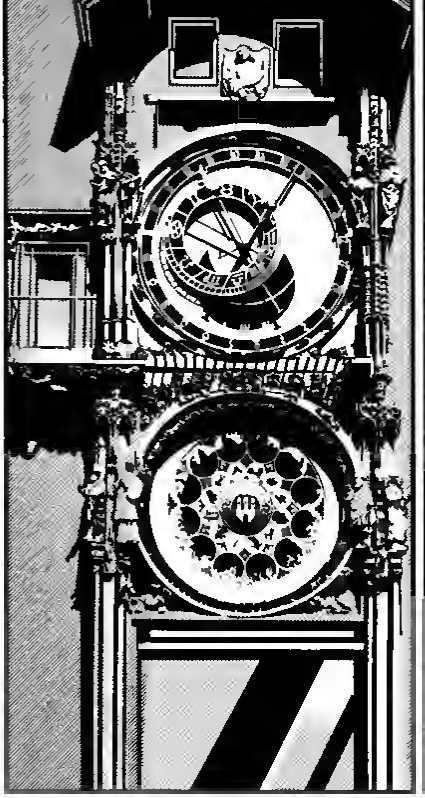
THE WOUND ON MY BACK WOULD NEVER HEAL. THE SURROUNDING TISSUE DECOMPOSED AND SHARP PAIN NUMBED MY ENTIRE BODY...

I WAS NOW LOSING THE STRENGTH TO EVEN BREATHE...



I REMEMBER ONLY MY BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES...





AFTER THE TOWN BELL TOWER TOLLED NIGHTFALL.

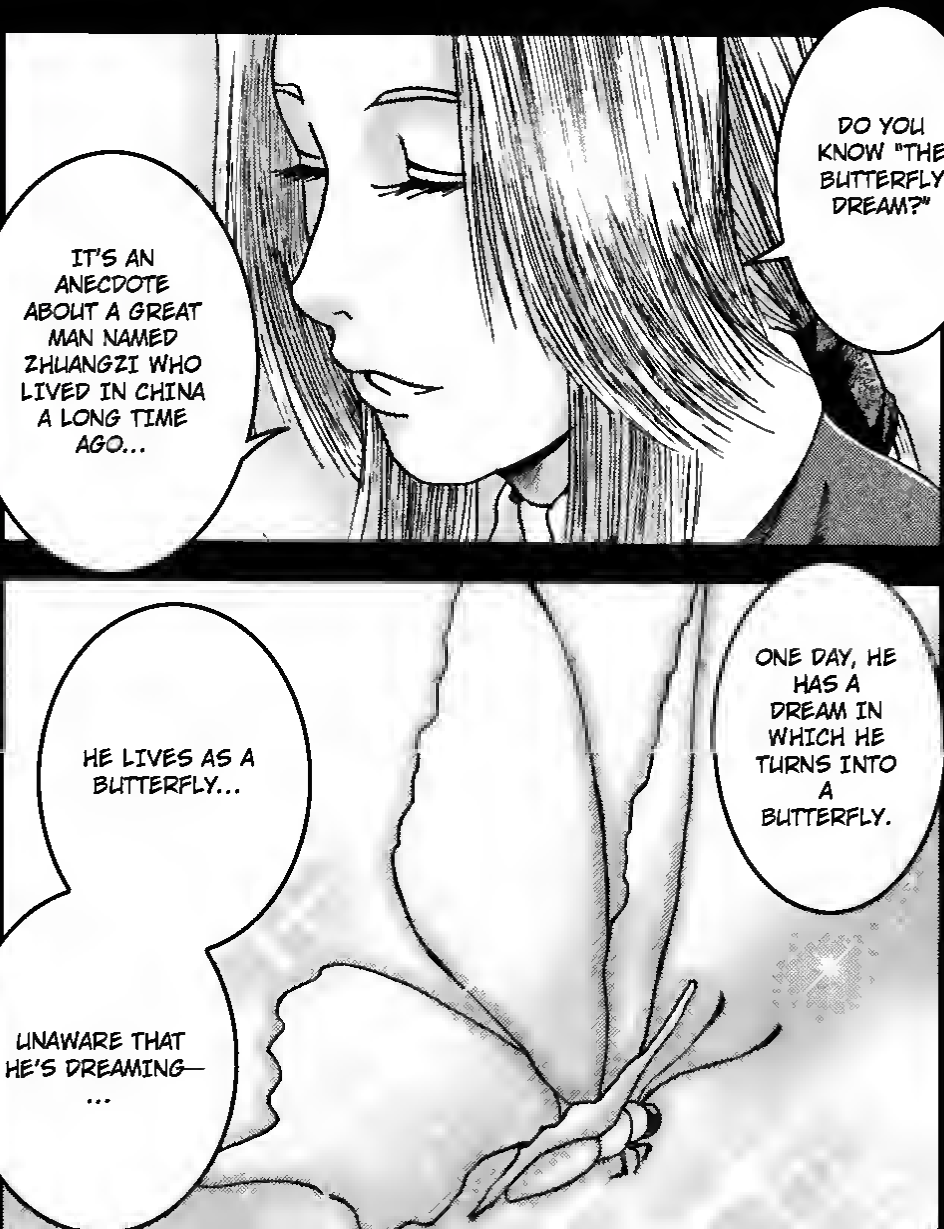
THE PAIN RUNNING THROUGH-OUT MY BODY MAGICALLY VANISHED IN A FLASH,

AND I WAS INSTEAD ENVELOPED BY A PLEASANT SENSATION.

INSECT

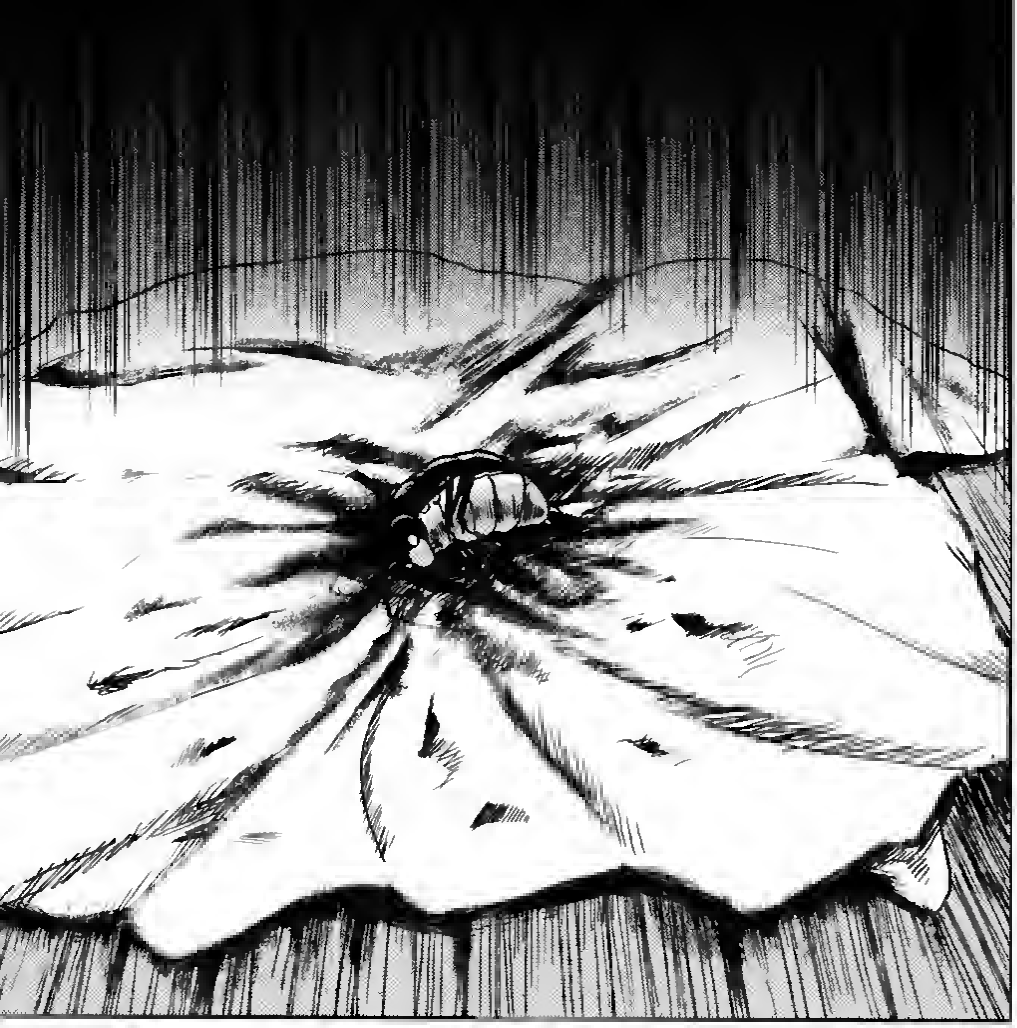
AND MY FINAL LIVING BREATH SLIPPED OUT THROUGH MY NASAL PASSAGES...
THE SKY WENT WHITE...

...SAY, SAMSA...


DO YOU KNOW "THE BUTTERFLY DREAM?"
IT'S AN ANECDOTE ABOUT A GREAT MAN NAMED ZHUANGZI WHO LIVED IN CHINA A LONG TIME AGO...
ONE DAY, HE HAS A DREAM IN WHICH HE TURNS INTO A BUTTERFLY.
HE LIVES AS A BUTTERFLY...
UNAWARE THAT HE'S DREAMING— ...

...BUT
WHEN HE WAKES UP, HE IS OF COURSE HIS NORMAL SELF...
AS TO WHAT THAT MEANS...
WAS HE ACTUALLY ...
DREAMING THAT HE'D TURNED INTO A BUTTERFLY— ...?
OR WAS THE BUTTERFLY DREAMING THAT IT'D TURNED INTO *HIM*— ...?

...WHAT?
WE DON'T KNOW—
...

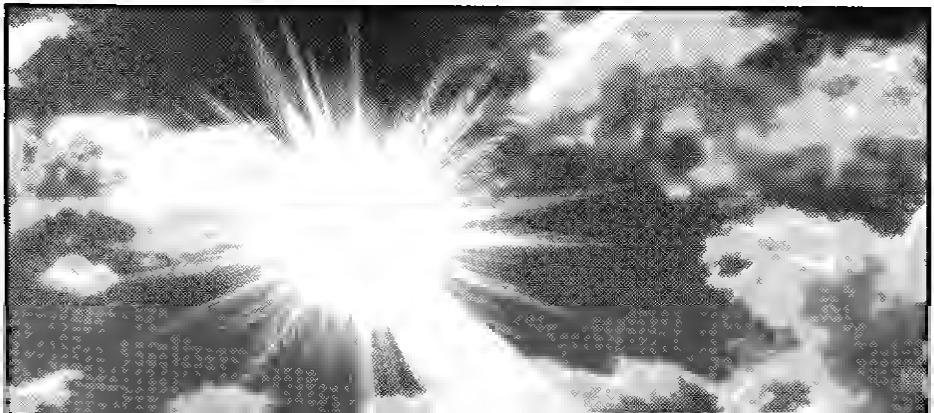


SNIFFLE...

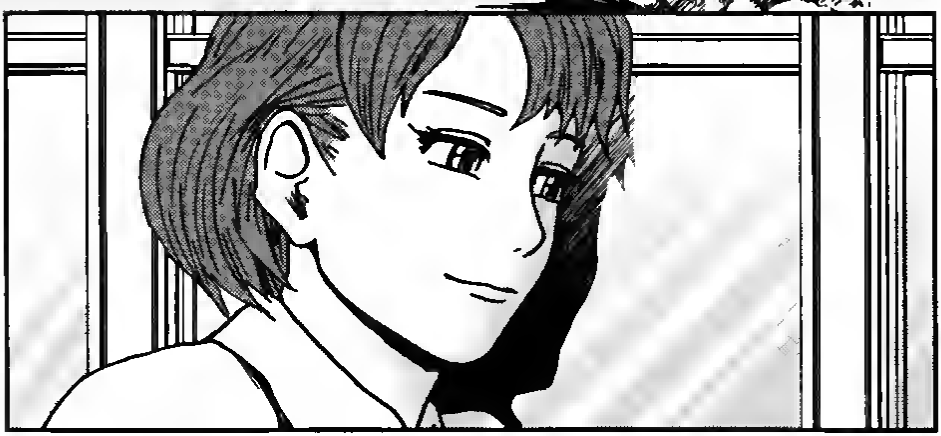
...WE MUST GIVE THANKS TO GOD.

I'LL TAKE THE DAY OFF FROM WORK TODAY, SO WE CAN ALL GO OUT FOR A CHANGE...
...I KNOW.

HOW ABOUT IT?
WHY DON'T WE GO TO THE BEACH OR SOMETHING?



EPILOGUE



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CLANK
CLINK
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CLANK
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...BUT YOU KNOW, SAMSA...

THIS IS WHAT I THINK...

EVEN IF THIS TIME NOW WHEN I'M ALIVE...
...IS A DREAM SOMEONE IS HAVING...
I DON'T THINK THAT CHANGES THE FACT THAT I'M STILL ME...
EVEN IF THE THINGS THAT WERE FUN AND THE THINGS THAT WERE SAD...
IF THIS WORLD I'VE SEEN HAPPENS TO BE SOMEONE'S DREAM...

I...
HOLD ALL OF IT DEAR TO ME...
WOW!
WHAT A WONDERFUL VIEW!

THERE ARE THOSE WHO MAINTAIN THAT "THE METAMORPHOSIS" IS A WORK THAT QUIETLY BLENDS A COMMON OCCURRENCE WITH A MIRACLE—

...

BUT THIS IS A MISINTERPRETATION. SIMPLE, ORDINARY EVERYDAY LIFE IS A MIRACLE IN ITSELF. ALL I DID WAS TO WRITE ABOUT THAT.

—FRANZ KAFKA

THE METAMORPHOSIS

MANGA VERSION

THE END

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THE METAMORPHOSIS
MANGA VERSION

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